

TOMORROW

High drama
Politics versus religion
beyond the lost horizon:
David Hewson reports
from Tibet

Stage ...
Penelope Keith, the star
in the shadow of stately
Audrey



... and sightseeing
Will Geoff Boycott be
reinstated as a Yorkshire
player?

Road ...
John Blunsden looks
back over the grand prix
season

... and rail
Part 3 of the Burma
railway diaries

Two killed in Falklands jet crash

An RAF Phantom jet crashed in the Falkland Islands killing its crew of two. The accident happened while the aircraft was on a routine training flight over the south side of the 2,600 ft Mount Osborne, the highest mountain on the island.

Record sales for shops

Spending in the shops in September was the highest for any month, according to the Department of Trade and Industry. But the underlying trend is one of "very slight growth".

Spy arrest

An American, James Durward Harper, has been arrested in California and charged with stealing secrets of the Minuteman missile and selling them to a Polish spy for £250,000 for relay to the Soviet Union.

Union accused

The Telephone Engineers' union is trying to "throttle at birth" the Mercury company which is trying to compete with British Telecom, the High Court was told.

Output drive

Austin Rover announced plans for "massive investment" in computer-aided engineering to counter Japan's world leadership in efficient car production.

Missile hopes

West Germany hopes that weekend talks with the Russians in Vienna may have persuaded Moscow not to break off the Geneva missile negotiations next month.

Micro ministry

A new ministry should be formed to encourage the growth of British electronics industries, a report from the National Economic Development Office says.

Boycott meeting

The Yorkshire Cricket Club committee met today for a final consideration of their decision not to renew Geoffrey Boycott's contract.

Club hangs on

The winding-up order brought against Charlton Athletic, the second division club by their former chairman Michael Glitsen, has been adjourned until November 24.

Leader page 13
Letters: On US and Soviet Union, from Mr M Cox; local government, from Mr Illyd Harrington; pension payments, from Dr H. R. Vickers

Leading articles: Mr Tebbit's task, Mozambique raid; Features, pages 8, 10, 12

Spending, the nightmare ticket; Argentina's motives revealed; The 'Star Wars' scenario; Roger Scruton argues for the abolition of local elections. Spectrum: Prisoner of the Japanese. Fashion: The Paris collections. Computer Horizons, pages 19-21

The Octopus success story; travelling with a word-processor; calling in the mavericks.

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Raymond Aaron, Mr Pat O'Brien

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Setback for Kinnock in choice of team

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock's hopes of infusing his shadow cabinet with new blood may be hampered by the decision of the party's centre-right to put up a full list of names for the 15 places, and the inability of the two groupings on the parliamentary left to agree on a joint "slate" of candidates.

Mr Kinnock's supporters had hoped that the two wings of the party could each be persuaded to put up only 10 candidates, leaving MPs with votes to spare to help people the new leader is keen to have in his team.

But although there is to be no formal Manifesto Group slate this year, the centre-right will today put out an informal list of 15 names.

The list will include eight present Shadow Cabinet members backed by the Manifesto Group last time, plus Mr Denis Healey who was a member by virtue of being deputy leader and is standing again.

The eight are Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr Peter Shore, Mr John Smith, Mr Eric Varley, Mr Brynmor John, Mrs Gwyneth

Dunwoody, Mr Bruce Millan and Mr Peter Archer.

The remaining six names will be a mixture of Manifesto Group backed MPs who were close to success last time: the next four were Mr John Gillingham, Mr John Cunningham, Mr Denis Howell and Mr Giles Radice, and those who did not stand last year. One of those expected to be Mr Donald Dewar, Mr Cunningham is thought to have the best chance among the new names of getting on.

The Tribune Group, which has traditionally put up the left slate, and the firm left Campaign Group, failed at the Brighton conference to agree a joint list of candidates.

Accordingly, the Campaign Group has put up five names: Mr Martin Flannery, Miss Jo Richardson, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Dennis Canavan and Miss Joan Maynard, and the Tribune Group is balloting for a slate of 10 MPs, which will be announced next Monday, the day before nominations close.

The Tribune and Campaign slates may slightly overlap, but even so it will mean that there will be some 13 MPs backed by one left-wing group or other, leaving little room for manoeuvre for "spare" votes.

Five candidates backed by the Tribune Group were successful last time: Mr Kinnock, Mr Eric Heffer, Mr Stan Orme, Mr John Silkin, and Mr Albert Booth, who lost his seat at the election.

The only natural vacancies, therefore, are those left by Mr Kinnock and Mr Booth, Mr Robin Cook is strongly tipped to get into the Shadow Cabinet, and to get the defence portfolio, Mr Meacher is also thought to have a sound chance.

The results will be announced on Thursday week.

GOSH - I'd quite forgotten about the LABOUR PARTY.



Tory MPs fear loss of committee jobs

By Our Political Reporter

Conservative MPs who served during the last Parliament on the Commons foreign affairs select committee fear that they may not be reappointed because of the Prime Minister's displeasure over the findings of their reporting the future of the Falkland Islands.

The position of Sir Anthony Kershaw, MP for Stroud, who is keen to carry on as the committee's chairman, is thought to be under threat.

The appointment of the new membership of the select committees has been held up by the Labour leadership and shadow cabinet elections, a delay which has not dismayed the Government. But the Commons Committee of Selection will be meeting when Parliament reassembles next week to draw up recommended lists of backbenchers from both sides for the departmental committees.

There is a conflict already between the view of the Committee of Selection, which is chaired by Sir Philip Holland,

that the majority of former members should not be reappointed to the new committees and a largely new membership should be composed and the views of senior backbenchers who believe that such a change would destroy any prospect of continuity in the committee's work. They believe that the chairmen, certainly, and at least some of the existing members should be reappointed.

The concern of some Tories who served on the Foreign Affairs Committee arises from their knowledge that their reports on the Falklands, a case which has not dismayed the Government, said the Falkland Islands policy and said the Government should not turn its back on future talks with Argentina, caused considerable irritation to the Government.

The report was never officially published because at the time of the dissolution of Parliament in May its drafting had not been completed.

The committee's initial conclusions, incorporated in Sir Anthony's draft chairman's report, were however dismissed in the Times.

Now, Conservative MPs believe that Mr Thatcher may want a Foreign Affairs Committee in which the conservative contingent would be more likely to reflect her own line on foreign policy issues, especially if, as expected, the Falklands report is reconsidered.

They believe that she may be trying, through the whips' office, to ensure that the Conservatives appointed this time are more sympathetic.



Sir Anthony Kershaw: Under threat

'Emergency' evidence

Telecom to record 999 calls

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

British Telecom is introducing a nationwide system to tape-record all 999 calls at the telephone exchange. It is intended to provide clear evidence of responsibility in cases where the response to an emergency is slow or inadequate.

Telecom is buying £2m worth of electronic recorders from Dictaphone. They will be installed between now and next March at the 250 telephone exchanges that handle emergency calls.

The investment follows two controversies in the Midlands last year, when members of the public accused operators of failing to connect them promptly

to the emergency service. One woman said she was refused a line to the ambulance service when her husband was dying of a heart attack.

The fire, police and ambulance authorities already record emergency calls after they are put through by the Telecom operator. But the Telecom recording will cover the whole period from the moment someone dials 999 to the end of the conversation with the emergency service.

"We decided that if we had our own clear recording of events no one could argue about what happened," a Telecom spokesman said. He pointed out that callers are sometimes

distracted in an emergency and are difficult to understand. Telecom handles 13m emergency calls a year.

Some of the emergency services were reluctant initially to have their conversations with callers recorded by a third party. But, the Telecom spokesman said, "we held talks with all the emergency authorities to ease their concern about confidentiality." Recordings will be guarded with "rigorous security", and only senior authorized staff will have access to them.

Telecom has operated a trial recording scheme in Coventry since last winter, using different equipment.



Dropping in: Mr Norman Tebbit, the new Industry Secretary, and his wife Margaret, visiting a special school in his Chingford constituency yesterday. Mrs Tebbit took the children a teddy bear, certified by her husband's new department as British-made.

Brent votes to defy health cuts

Brent Health Authority last night voted by nine votes to seven, with one abstention to continue to defy the Government's demand for £250,000 cash cuts this year.

The decision was taken in spite of an earlier High Court ruling when two authority members failed in their challenge to a letter ordering them to vote for the cuts or face dismissal.

Mr Justice Forbes said the Health Authority had a right to vote which way they liked on the question of £250,000 cuts and 326 job losses.

But he said the North West Thames Regional Health Authority had the power to dictate in a letter which way they should vote and warn of the consequences if they did not. The region had the power under the National Health Service Act to ask the Government to dismiss the district authority, he added.

The region believed Brent's vote last month to ignore the Government's guidelines was not in the interest of the health service in Brent.

Dismissing an application for declarations that the letter was unlawful, the judge ordered the two members, the Rev David Haslam, vice-chairman of the Brent Health Authority, and Councillor Lawrence Nerva, chairman of Brent Council's social services, to pay the hearing's costs.

South Africa raids Mozambique

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Several officials of the banned African National Congress (ANC) and a number of Mozambique citizens were among those wounded in a South African bomb attack early yesterday morning on an ANC office in the heart of the residential and diplomatic quarter of Maputo, the Mozambique capital.

The attack, according to a statement by General Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, was "a preemptive operation" carried out by "a small task force of the South African Defence Force" which had afterwards returned safely to 54th African territory. He made no casualty claims.

General Malan alleged that the target was an "ANC planning office" of the kind from which "acts of terror like the one last week in Warmbaths were planned, - controlled and supported". (This was a reference to ANC sabotage of petrol storage tanks at Warmbaths, a spa town in central Transvaal, on October 10).

It was well known, the general claimed, that the ANC was plotting further "terror actions", which did not exclude civilian casualties of any race, and that some of these had been planned in the bombed Maputo office. Large numbers of trained terrorists, he alleged, had also been "processed" recently by the office.

Mozambique had been given a warning "to get rid of the ANC" but was obviously not prepared to heed these warnings. "As long as they continue to harbour and provide facilities to the ANC, the SADF will conduct operations in that country", General Malan declared.

Mozambican sources described the ANC premises as "a propaganda office".

British condemnation: Britain was among the first countries to condemn the raid. President Samora Machel is due to visit here tomorrow (Henry Stanhope writes).

The Foreign Office yesterday said it was clear "that Mozambique's sovereignty has once again been seriously violated. We deplore this."

Pretoria bludgeoned and Machel in Paris, page 5
Leading article, page 13

election victory - coincided with the opening of the winter session of the Knesset. A debate on a Labour opposition motion of no confidence in the new administration's handling of the economy is expected soon.

During the afternoon, Israel Radio confidently reported government sources as claiming that Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the new Prime Minister, had selected Mr Yigal Cohen-Orag, aged 46, a member of his own right-wing Herut Party and a noted hawk, as Likud's fourth finance minister.

Mr Cohen-Orag voted against the Camp David Treaty in 1978, and is a fervent supporter of increasing settlements in the occupied West Bank.

He is little known outside Israel, but is a professional economist who has recently emerged as one of the most

outsoken critics of the disastrous policies pursued by Mr Arikon. He was shouted down in July, when he tried to voice his economic forebodings at a noisy meeting of the Herut central committee. Mr Cohen-Orag is the coalition's whip on the Knesset finance committee.

Herut Party sources later confirmed the report, which prompted an angry reaction from the Liberal Party - the second largest faction in the coalition - which had been pressing for the selection of one of its two candidates, Mr Yitzhak Mida, the energy minister, or Mr Gideon Platt, the Minister of Industry.

Last night, Mr Shamir was reported to be adamant in his selection of Mr Cohen-Orag, and a showdown with the Liberals was thought to be imminent. A report on army

Continued on back page, col 5

Finance minister appointment increases Israel turmoil

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The economic and political turmoil caused by the resignation of Mr Menachem Begin intensified yesterday, as confusion followed urgent attempts to find a new finance minister acceptable to all factions in the ruling Likud coalition.

The political infighting took place as the Stock Exchange in Tel Aviv remained shut for the eighth consecutive day, provoking a credit crisis among many businesses and service industries. Some of them refused to take cheques from the public after a dramatic increase in the number of bad cheques passed in recent days.

But the Bank of Israel reported that for the first time in weeks the public had sold more dollar bills at the banks than were purchased.

The undignified squabble over the succession to the disgraced Mr Yoram Arikon - the hero of Likud's 1981

election victory - coincided with the opening of the winter session of the Knesset. A debate on a Labour opposition motion of no confidence in the new administration's handling of the economy is expected soon.

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Continued on back page, col 5

Detective cleared of Waldorf murder attempt

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

One of the detectives who shot Mr Stephen Waldorf in a police operation last January was yesterday cleared of attempted murder at the direction of a judge in the Central Criminal Court.

Mr Justice Croom-Johnson said after legal argument in the absence of the jury that the charge of attempted murder against Det Constable Peter Finch would not continue.

He also said that one of the remaining two counts against Constable Finch would be altered to wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm rather than causing grievous bodily harm with intent.

The count refers to allegations that Constable Finch pistol whipped Mr Waldorf as he lay wounded on the road.

Yesterday Constable Finch and Det Constable John Jardine, who is charged with attempted murder and wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, each described the police operation to the court.

Constable Finch said he drew his gun as he went to try to identify the man in the car, believed to be the fugitive David Martin. "I knew it was Martin in that car he would not hesitate to shoot me. I had to be prepared and I felt this, as the rules state, was an occasion where I should draw the weapon."

He believed he had seen Martin sitting in the front of the car and told the court: "I saw a three-quarter profile of Martin. I was 100 per cent sure it was him."

Nervous and tense, the policeman said he started to retreat but movements in the car made him think he was about to be shot. He said he tried to shout a warning but

"the only words I could get out were 'armed police'. It did not come out very well. My voice faltered."

His first two shots went into a rear tyre. He told the court: "It was bad shooting. It was not a deliberate shot." Later as Mr Waldorf lay wounded, Constable Finch struck him because he thought the man was still a threat.

It was only as the man was turned over, handcuffed, that he realized he had made a mistake. Nine months later he still felt terrible about the shooting, but "I believe I was doing the right thing at the right time."

Cross-examined by Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, Constable Finch denied that he opened fire rather than report back to his superiors as an act of "private enterprise." He said he hit Mr Waldorf with the gun to knock him out and not to beat him up.

Constable Jardine said he shot Mr Waldorf as he lay half out of his car because he was still moving and presenting a threat. He said: "There was only one explanation from what had gone on before. The man had to have a gun and it had to be there somewhere."

It would have been extremely foolish to wait, since the man could have produced a gun and fired. If the same situation happened again, "I am very much afraid I would have had to act in the same way", he said.

Cross-examined, Constable Jardine said it would have been contrary to police training to approach the man in the circumstances. The man could have taken the officer's gun away and Constable Jardine said: "We are not supermen."

Full report, page 3

Kirkpatrick rejects offer of 'consolation prize'

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the controversial US Representative at the United Nations, has rejected a specially created foreign policy post offered by President Reagan to ease her disappointment at failing to be chosen to succeed Mr William Clark as National Security Adviser. He has instead selected Mr Robert McFarlane, his special envoy to the Middle East.

According to reliable sources the President wanted to set up a new senior post, but Mrs Kirkpatrick is reported to have rejected the offer because the scope of the job was undefined and it was unclear how much influence it would carry.

She has told the President she wishes to leave her UN post at the end of the present session. Mr Reagan is known to place great value on her opinions and is anxious to keep her in his

Administration and to have her continue to play an important role in forming foreign policy.

But *The New York Times* quoted a senior adviser of Mrs Kirkpatrick as saying: "What position could they give her? She is in the Cabinet. She is in the National Security Council. There is no way that she could be guaranteed access."

The choice of Mr McFarlane which was due to be announced formally last night, means that the President must also decide who should take over the job of Middle East trouble-shooter?

The question is likely to be considered at a top level strategy session on the Middle East at the White House today.

Mr McFarlane, who will attend the meeting, has recommended that the US must now widen the scope of its activity in the Middle East.

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حکومت الاصل

Detective cleared of attempted murder in Waldorf shooting

A detective was cleared of attempting to murder Mr. Stephen Waldorf, on the direction of Mr. Justice Croom-Johnson at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The judge told the jury: "There is no evidence which should go before you, or indeed before anybody, that Peter Finch attempted to murder Mr. Waldorf."

Det Constable Finch, aged 38, of Malvern Way, Croydon Green, Hertfordshire had denied attempting to murder Mr. Waldorf, whom he shot in the back of the head in the car at the Central Criminal Court, London, on January 14.

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, had told the court that Mr. Waldorf was shot when he was mistaken for David Martin, who was last week jailed for 25 years for offences including shooting a policeman.

The judge also told the jury yesterday that one of the remaining two charges against Constable Finch had been amended from "causing grievous bodily harm with intent" to "wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm".

Constable Finch also faces a second charge of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. He denies both.

Det Constable Ian Jardine, aged 38, of Dawlish Drive, Pinner, north-west London, remains accused of attempted murder and wounding Mr. Waldorf with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. He denies both charges.

After the judge's ruling, Constable Finch went into the witness box and told the court of the shooting.

He had joined the team hunting David Martin in August last year and was with other officers staking out Martin's flat in Crawford Place, Marylebone, on September 15, 1982. His statement about what happened that night was read to him by his counsel, Mr. Michael Corkery, QC.

In it, Constable Finch described how he first believed Martin was a woman. But when he approached him he saw it was Martin and that he had a black automatic in his hand. He had drawn his police pistol and struggle to disarm Martin.

Constable Finch said he wrestled the gun from Martin. As it fell to the floor, Martin produced a second silver pistol and Constable Finch thought someone was going to get shot.

After Martin was shot in the neck by another officer, Constable Finch fell on top of him. Martin was still struggling. He had hit Martin across the face twice with his gun because he

saw him reaching for the silver pistol again.

When Martin escaped from Marlborough Street Court on Christmas Eve, Constable Finch was assigned to the team hunting him.

On the day of the shooting, he followed Miss Susan Stephens to the car hire firm where the yellow Mini in which Mr. Waldorf was shot was collected. While following the car, a description of a passenger in the Mini from the surveillance radio was broadcast which suggested he might be Martin.

Constable Finch was sent to see if he could identify him. He said: "I knew if it was Martin in that car he would not hesitate to shoot me. I had to be prepared." He felt he should draw his weapon.

As he approached the Mini, he saw Mr. Waldorf's large nose, hair and high cheekbones. "One hundred per cent, I was sure it was him. Absolutely positive."

"I was nervous. I was tense. My intention was to get away as soon as I could and tell the other officers. I started to back off. I was going away."

"When I backed towards the

rear nearside of the Mini, I saw that the driver turned his head round to the left and looked at me.

"He then said something to the front passenger, who turned round and reached towards the rear seat."

"I thought he was going for a gun. I feared for my life. I thought I was going to be shot." He called out, but not very loudly.

He raised his gun and fired two "paired" shots. "These went into the tyre. It was because I was nervous that they did so. It was bad shooting."

Constable Finch said he then moved forward towards the passenger door. He fired two more shots at the shoulder area of the man, who was moving about a great deal.

He walked round the car and saw the man he thought was Martin coming out of the Mini. His head and most of his body were on the road and his legs and feet in the car.

Constable Finch said he still considered he was vulnerable. "From my experience, Martin, even though he has been shot, is still a very dangerous man. I hit him on his head with my revolver at least three times."

Mr. Waldorf was then handcuffed and it was then that Constable Finch saw his face.

"It was not Martin."

Asked by the Attorney General why he had tried to arrest Martin against instructions, Constable Finch said: "I thought I was not in a position to get away. It was impossible. Martin was the sort of person to get out and follow and shoot you. I thought he was going for a gun and that he was going to shoot me and I would be dead."

Det Constable Jardine told the jury he had been in the Metropolitan Police for almost 18 years and was a marksman. He has been issued with a .38 revolver on the day of the shooting and had been following the Mini.

Finch came trotting by, as he drew near the Mini he angled more towards it. The next thing he saw was Constable Finch crouching by the car with a pistol pointed at it. "I immediately heard what I took to be shots being fired. I went running down to the car."

"I went to the office and a man I now know to be Waldorf was lying half outside the car."

"He was moving about moaning. I noticed his hands immediately because they were making groping movements down his body. The man had to have a gun in there somewhere."

The case for the defence was concluded and the final speeches will continue today.



Det Constable Peter Finch: "nervous"



Det Constable John Jardine: "fired at head"



Barbican show: Giulio Clinghi, the Italian sculptor, with his Venus of the Eur 1976 at the press view of an exhibition of his work at the Barbican Sculpture Court in London yesterday.

The retrospective by Clinghi, which opens to the public today is the first international exhibition to be staged at the open air Sculpture Court - the roof of the concert hall - which adjoins the art gallery on level 8, at the Barbican Centre. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Stud owner's stark choice

By Thomson Prentice

The owner of a Newmarket stud farm who is alleging negligence against the area's longest established veterinary surgeons, told the High Court yesterday how one of them told her to choose which of her horses she wanted to save.

On the day a mare died at Mrs. Merriam Meade's Ballinacorney Stud, Carlton, Newmarket, Mr. Donald Simpson, a vet from Day and Partners, told her to separate from all the others

the animals she wanted to keep alive.

Mrs. Meade, aged 63, is alleging that the veterinary surgeons were negligent in allowing an infection of equine herpes to spread from their surgery to her horses and she is claiming damages of about £100,000. Since the outbreak nine of her horses have died but Mrs. Meade is claiming only on behalf of three of them.

She will continue her evidence in court today.

Tour operators in price-cutting battle on foreign holidays

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

PRICE CUTS SO FAR

	Reduction%
Thomson summer sun	2
Thomson self-catering	6
Horizon	6
Thomas Cook (overall)	4
T. Cook self-catering	7
Intasun (overall)	6
Enterprise	6

*Valid to November 8. Computations are with each company's latest last-season brochure.

Another leading foreign package holidays operator is cutting its prices for next summer. Enterprise Holidays, one of British Airways' four package holidays subsidiaries, is reducing prices by an average of 6 per cent and some holidays by 20 per cent.

If other operators further reduce prices of comparable holidays Enterprise will be prepared to respond, Mr. Alan Waddell, British Airways' General Manager of Tour Operations said. On value for money Enterprise would not be knowingly undersold, he said, if a holidaymaker were offered a strictly comparable package for less money elsewhere Enterprise would match the price.

Enterprise might reissue its brochure with lower prices later in the booking season.

Brochure reprints with lower prices have already entered the tour operators' armoury of promotional weapons in the intensifying holiday price war. Those already booked also get the lower prices.

Thomson Holidays, the market leader, seized extra sales this summer by reprinting its 1983 brochures with cut prices. Its 1984 offerings have even lower price levels. Horizon Travel has also cut prices.

Intasun Leisure, yet to

produce its main brochures for next summer, is until November 8 offering early bookers 6 per cent off its 1983 brochure prices. Intasun has traditionally undercut Thomson and Horizon and is expected to do so again when it publishes its main brochure.

Enterprise, a middle-market operator, is generally matching Thomson's lower prices and mostly if marginally undercutting Horizon. Mr. Waddell claimed Thomson and Horizon have traditionally operated in higher quality holidays.

Enterprise is offering 290,000 holidays next year, a 16 per cent increase on this year. Like most others in the industry it expects more Britons to holiday abroad next year, between 5 and 10 per cent more than this year.

The cheapest seven-day holidays on offer from Enterprise include Spain, £72, and Greece £181. There are no additional surcharges.

Three policemen cleared

Three Birmingham policemen were cleared yesterday of planting evidence on a teenage suspect at the end of a five-day trial at Birmingham Crown Court.

Outside plain clothes police cheered as Sergeant Paul Anderson, aged 30, Police Constable Paul Higgins, aged 25, and Police Constable John Edwards, aged 32, hugged their wives.

The three officers, members of an experimental unit aimed at combating crime in Sparkhill, Birmingham, had denied at-

tempting to pervert the course of justice.

The Crown alleged that they had been involved in an attempt to plant a bunch of keys on Mr. James Dowling, aged 19, as they moved in to arrest him.

In his evidence PC Edwards said he called out to Mr. Dowling who put his hand in his jacket pocket and then removed it with his fist clenched. He grabbed Mr. Dowling's hand and took four keys from his fist.

Court binds over kerb crawlers

From Arthur Owsen
Nottingham

Residents of Hyson Green, Nottingham, were so angry about kerb crawlers seeking prostitutes that they had smashed car windows and poured paint over the men's cars, Nottingham magistrates were told yesterday.

Thirteen men who appeared before the court were bound over to keep the peace for 12 months in the sum of £100. Mr. Barry Hill, for the prosecution, told the court the police had acted after complaints about kerb crawling from the head of a girls' school, tenants' association and MPs.

Mr. Hill said: "Respectable women cannot go shopping or to bus stops, and sixth form school girls cannot go out at lunchtime without being accosted by men. It has become a disgrace the women are unable to walk the streets where they live without being accosted."

Mr. Hill said the men had mistaken two policewomen Miss Janet Greenwood and Miss Jacqueline Davies, who were being used as decoys, for prostitutes.

Det. Ins. Keith Newman, head of the city's vice squad, said after the case: "We always believed that the root of the problem was men roaming the streets for sex. The magistrates have now given us clear guidelines for the future."

Ministry urged for microchip industry

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

The National Economic Development Office (Nedo) has called on the Government to form a new ministry to spearhead Britain's exploitation of electronics.

A report prepared by Sir Iwan Madocks, former chief scientist to the Department of Industry, and published today, says it is as vital to have such a ministry - a Ministry of Communications - as it is to have ministries dealing with energy and food. "Each is concerned with fundamental supplies to the nation, each is dealing with problems of strategic significance."

A similar recommendation has been made by the Information Technology Advisory Panel to the Cabinet Office. The panel, which published its report on information technology about two weeks ago,

called for some coordination, possibly at ministry level, to encourage the commercial exploitation of the information technological industries - telecommunications, electronics and computers.

The Nedo report outlines powers which the new ministry would need to encourage the growth of semi-conductor manufacture in Britain, independent of Japan and the US.

The report concludes: "Given this kind of determined assault then there is some prospect of the UK manufacturing industry at large and most aspects of the service industries being able to face up to competition from the USA and Japan."

Report: The Electronics Components Industry. Sir Iwan Madocks (National Economic Development Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX).

Cinemas to hire video films

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

The two main cinema chains, Thorn EMI and Rank, have started pilot schemes to hire video films from their own cinemas. It is the latest plan in their campaign to fight competition from the booming video industry or at least to use it to their advantage. It is being conducted as a small scale experiment, but the early indications have been promising and may lead to an expansion of the scheme throughout the country.

Rank, which has 86 cinema sites, began with a pilot scheme in one large cinema, and one small cinema. The bigger cinema, with a larger number of titles, came out the better of the two, and the second stage of the scheme is to adopt that plan in eight cinemas.

The scheme is under way in two cinemas in Greater London, Barking and Holloway, and also in Manchester and Edinburgh. By mid-November, Birmingham and Plymouth will have joined the scheme.

A Rank spokesman said: "We believe that the only way to see the big films is in the cinema and we hope to attract the public to see them. But it might be the appropriate time to launch a legitimate video hire scheme, based at the cinema."

Pay rises higher than living cost

By Stephen Goodwin

A pay rise of only 1.3 per cent over the past 12 months would in general have enabled people to maintain their life styles, according to an independent cost-of-living report published today.

While prices have risen by 5.2 per cent over the past year, thanks to tax concessions granted in April incomes have not needed to climb by that amount the report says.

Reward Regional Surveys, which publishes the report three times a year, expects inflation to increase to 5.5 per cent by the end of this year and slacken for some months with Budget and mortgage changes "offering some hope of a stabilized situation through 1984".

Looking back over 10 years of surveys by the company, it appears incomes have stuck closely to price rises.

Consumer prices have risen 263 per cent compared to 1973, with house and food prices going up by 191 per cent and 220 per cent respectively. Individual national insurance contributions have risen by 645 per cent and direct taxation by 483 per cent.

To pay for it incomes needed to rise by 292 per cent, the survey company estimated. It found average earnings had gone up by 293 per cent.

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Gunshot victims belie Israeli claims after Nabatiya rioting

The Israeli Army say no one was shot in Nabatiya on Sunday, but Ali Hammoura disagrees. He buried his 19-year-old brother Sobheil yesterday - the bullet that killed him still lodged in his left shoulder - in an overgrown Shia Muslim cemetery just down the road from the family home.

Ali Hammoura is a doctor and even in the dark, crowded room of mourning relatives he spoke with a kind of clinical precision.

"Sobheil came down from Beirut at the weekend to spend Sunday with me in Nabatiya. He is not particularly religious, but he wanted to see the celebration of Ashura. He went down with the crowd and I was working in the hospital when he returned. He just came into the entrance of the hospital and said 'I'm wounded'. Then he slumped forward on his face."

The black flags of Ashura - the festival at which Shia Muslims celebrate the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson Hussein at the battle of Karbala - still flew limply outside the Husseiniyah mosque in the centre of Nabatiya, where violence broke out on Sunday after the Israeli Army had driven a military convoy into

From Robert Fink, Nabatiya

the square at the height of the festival.

Young men sweeping the mosque steps agreed stones had been flung at the convoy, but insisted that people "from outside" had done it. But film of the incident clearly shows the people of Nabatiya and the surrounding countryside, in near-hysteria as thousands of Shia Muslims lashed themselves with chains, hurling stones and pieces of wood at the convoy.

The Israelis say someone threw a hand-grenade at them and that their troops fired back; this may be true. But the Israeli Army also says it checked the local hospitals and found no evidence of anyone being wounded by gunfire. The evidence suggests this is untrue.

Doctors at the Helwan hospital west of Nabatiya had records of two patients suffering from gunshot wounds, one of whom was sent to Sidon in critical condition with a bullet wound in the stomach. His name was Hussein Diaz and we found him yesterday at the Shakh hospital in Sidon, lying in a great pain in a third floor ward surrounded by relatives. When I greeted him, he was just able to move his lips. His sister said the

Israelis had shot him in the square at Nabatiya.

At the Jomoub hospital, opposite the Nabatiya mosque, they treated three people, one a young woman with gunshot wounds. All were allowed home, but at the Najdeh hospital they sent two patients to Sidon.

One of them, Hussein Makluzum, had severe abrasions to the face. The doctors said he had been beaten by rifle bullets.

We found him in the ward next to Hussein Diaz, his face dark with bruises, his upper lip grotesquely disfigured, a drip tube attached to one of his feet.

The other patient sent to Sidon was Sobheil Hammoura. He died there and his brother took him to the family village of Meiss el-Jebel for burial yesterday morning. His old father seemed resigned to his son's death, while Sobheil's mother wept with her friends and three daughters.

Ali Hammoura, almost as resigned as his father, shuffled through photographs of his dead brother and said: "He was shot in the back by the Israelis. What can we do? We are under occupation forces."

Pretoria wields bludgeon on ANC

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African attack early yesterday morning on what is claimed here to have been a "planning office" of the underground African National Congress (ANC) in Maputo, the Mozambique capital, is further evidence of Pretoria's determination to bludgeon its black neighbours into curbing the activity of the ANC on their territories.

In a recent newspaper interview Mr Ruelof "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, declared that the ANC "must get out (of neighbouring states). There is no compromise on this one. None whatsoever. Just as there is no compromise on Cuban withdrawal from Angola". (A Cuban withdrawal is Pretoria's stated condition for granting independence to Namibia.)

Over the past year the ferocity and frequency of South African attacks on black states alleged to be sheltering ANC guerrillas have increased as dramatically as the restraining influence of adverse world opinion has diminished. A new strategy is also emerging of launching attacks as calculated reprisals against specific acts of guerrilla warfare in South Africa.

Although described by General Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, as "preemptive", yesterday's raid was also deliberately linked by the general to the sabotage attack by the ANC on the central Transvaal spa town of Warmbaths on October 10. He claimed that such sabotage was planned from offices like the one hit in Maputo.

The eye-for-an-eye and tooth-for-a-tooth motive was even more explicit in the attack by South African Impala jets on alleged ANC targets in the Matola suburb of Maputo on May 23, just three days after the ANC had claimed responsibility for the car bomb explosion in Pretoria which killed 19 people and injured more than 200 others, including both civilians and military personnel.

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The decision to shoot was issued shortly after this session. General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, then as now Minister of Defence, took part in the meeting and according to the first draft "no one objected to the proposal". General Jaruzelski's surprise was always argued that the general opposed the decision to shoot at workers.

The published version of events excludes this account and indeed gives no itemized blow-by-blow account. But it is nonetheless frank about the shortcomings of the party and other institutions and represents them as a contributory cause to the various crises.

All South Africa's neighbours have substantial numbers of South African refugees on their soil, many of whom fled abroad in the aftermath of the 1976-77 riots in Soweto and other black townships.

After Mozambique, Lesotho has been the main target of South African wrath. A commando raid last December on alleged ANC "nests" in Maseru killed 42 people, of whom 12 were Lesotho civilians without any ANC connections. About 100 ANC members were believed to have been flown out of the small kingdom shortly afterwards, but the South Africans are pressing for more to be removed.

Last month Mr Botha gave the Lesotho Government a list of 68 ANC activists he wanted flushed out. Lesotho replied that two-thirds of those named had either never set foot in Lesotho or had only been there briefly before moving on elsewhere. About 20 others are being urged to see if there is any justification for the charge that they have been engaged in subversion.

Mr Morven Mahachi, the Minister of Lands, slammed the recent annual congress of the Commercial Farmers' Union when, referring to legislation being drafted, he said the Government would expropriate land which it deemed to be underutilized.

Nevertheless the farmers, with little opportunity to start again elsewhere, are more wedded to Zimbabwe than any other sector of the white population. One farmer said recently: "If whites had things so easy and if South Africa was not such an easy bolt-hole more people would have stayed."

For all the concern over recent statements farmers will be thinking more about the rains which must start to fall in the next two months if there is not to be a third year of drought with disastrous consequences for the country as a whole.



Paris welcome: President Mitterrand yesterday greeting President Machel

Machel denounced Maputo raid

Paris - President Machel of Mozambique yesterday condemned the South African raid on ANC installations in Maputo as an act of terrorism, adding here that he had asked France for military aid for his country's defence. France also condemned the raid.

It is the first time that Mr Machel has visited France since Mozambique acquired its independence from Portugal in 1975. Speaking after a tête-à-tête lunch with President Mitterrand, Mr Machel claimed that he had "obtained (promises of) all

kinds of military aid from France".

Commenting on that, however, M Michel Varzelle, the Elysée Palace spokesman, simply said that "any request that is made will be studied by France with the greatest attention and goodwill".

Mozambique's three priorities

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The latest South African raid on Maputo seems unlikely to upset the plans of President Machel of Mozambique, who is due to set foot in Britain for the first time tomorrow in search of money, manpower and a new image.

He needs private investment to develop his country's resources in the face of endemic Third World ailments like balance of payments problems and a crippling foreign debt.

He needs skilled manpower to teach his own workforce, whose technical education was woefully neglected before independence from Portugal eight years ago.

He is even reported to be seeking military aid in the form of a communications system and a training team for his 12,600-strong armed forces, although it is questionable how far Britain would comply.

But most of all, his aides say, he needs to persuade Europe that Marxist-Leninist though he may be, he remains first and foremost an African, working for the good of his own country not the destruction of anyone else's.

He was well received in Lisbon on his six-nation tour. But he is hoping for even more from Britain, whose government might have reason to be grateful for his mediation during the 1979 Lancaster House talks on Zimbabwe.

Moreover, he is, curiously, a fan of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, whose determination over Zimbabwe's independence won considerable respect in Maputo. There will be lunch at Buckingham Palace tomorrow and talks at Downing Street on Thursday when he is expected to be offered a new aid package.

although this is likely to take the form of technical help rather than extra cash. Mozambique has received more than £22m worth of British aid since 1976.

Then there will be discussions with British businessmen whom he hopes to interest in his country and with charities like Oxfam about the serious drought which has devastated Mozambique's agriculture - especially in the south, whose four million population are showing signs of famine-related diseases.

Collectivization policies for the peasant farms are said to have proved no more successful in Mozambique than they have been in the Soviet Union, while attempts to transplant people from overcrowded urban slums back to their rural homes could hardly have come at a worse time.

Guerrillas kill two Peru police

Lima (Reuters) - Maoist guerrillas blew up a bridge in the Peruvian highlands and killed two policemen in a wave of attacks over 24 hours, the Civil Guard said.

The two policemen died when guerrillas dynamited the Alcomachay bridge on the road linking the department capitals of Ayacucho and Huancavelica. Lima, the capital, was partially blacked out after three electricity pylons were blown up. Guerrillas also bombed a police station, injuring two policemen.

The attacks appeared to be coordinated with raids in Ayacucho and Huancavelica, where guerrillas of the Marxist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) movement have been most active.

Señor Luis Pérezovich, the Interior Minister, said that security forces had seized very important guerrilla leaders. He did not identify them, but said they were giving information needed to capture other guerrillas.

Life for hijack

Peking (Reuters) - A youth who was an accomplice in the hijacking of a Chinese airliner to South Korea last May was given a suspended death sentence by a court in Shen Yang and two others who hid guns were jailed for life. The six hijackers were jailed for between four and six years by South Korea in August.

High catch

Marseille (AFP) - Five Sri Lankan immigrants who tried to walk over the Alps into France were arrested at an altitude of 8,100ft by Customs police. Newly-fallen snow had stopped their progress by car through the normally unguarded Col Agnel Pass.

Smugglers held

Peking (Reuters) - Two Hongkong men have been arrested in Canton for smuggling out huge amounts of priceless Chinese antiques, the Guangming daily reported. Police seized more than 1,700 works of art, including jade from the eleventh century BC which they had bought from peasants.

80 drown

Lagos (Reuters) - About 80 people were feared drowned after a collision at night between two passenger boats on a lagoon 75 miles east of Lagos. Another 80 were missing.

Wind up

Brunsbüttel (Reuters) - The world's largest wind power plant, 450 ft high and with sails 300 ft long, started operating here on the North German coast near the mouth of the Elbe. It will provide power for 250 families.

State radio denies coup in Grenada

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain

There has been no coup in Grenada, no military takeover, not even a power struggle, according to the government-controlled Radio Free Grenada.

The political upheaval in the island over the past few days was simply a move by the central committee of the ruling New Jewel Movement to bring the Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, under firm party discipline.

In a lengthy statement broadcast on Sunday night and repeated yesterday at regular intervals, a spokesman for the armed forces explained that Mr Bishop, the 39-year-old London-trained lawyer who has led Grenada's four-and-a-half year old revolution thus far, had demanded sole control, contrary to the agreed principle of collective leadership.

He had become "hostile to criticism" and had allowed "power and authority to go to his head". He had started imagining conspiracies against himself, the broadcast said.

Hoping to capitalize on his personal popularity he had sought to defy the principle of collective decision-making, and had started a rumour that his deputy, Mr Bernard Coard, and Mrs Phyllis Coard, who is also a government minister, were planning to overthrow him.

Riddle of Jaruzelski and order to shoot workers

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish Communist leadership has disclosed for the first time how many workers were killed and wounded during the Baltic coast riots of 1970. The admission comes in a special issue of the ideological journal *New Roads* which will appear on news stands this week, destined to become one of the most unlikely best sellers in the Eastern block.

The journal publishes the so-called *Kubicki Report* named after a relatively liberal member of the Politburo who supervised an investigation into the sources of the repeated crises in Polish political life. The report is remarkably candid about a number of key events that have traditionally been locked up in the secret annals of the party.

The first and foremost of these is the shooting of workers in December, 1970, after street protests about prices rises. According to the report 44 people were killed including two policemen and one soldier and 1,164 people were wounded out of whom 600 were policemen or soldiers. Almost 20 public buildings were set on fire and 220 shops looted, while dozens of tanks, armoured cars and civilian vehicles were set on fire. After the riots - which led to the fall of the party leader Mr Wladyslaw Gomulka - eye witnesses spoke of graves being removed overnight. Death certificates falsified and much else besides.

to cover up the true number of those shot.

The report does not go into such details. But it does firmly place on the shoulders of Mr Gomulka the decision to shoot at the demonstrators. "The shots were supposed to be aimed at the legs of the attackers, Gomulka being in a state of nervous shock accused local authorities in Gdansk of slow and inefficient action."

A first draft of the *Kubicki Report*, however, presented a substantially more detailed account of the events, describing a meeting held at 9 o'clock on December 15 when the party and government leadership met in Mr Gomulka's office to decide how to quell the demonstrations.

The decision to shoot was issued shortly after this session.

General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, then as now Minister of Defence, took part in the meeting and according to the first draft "no one objected to the proposal". General Jaruzelski's surprise was always argued that the general opposed the decision to shoot at workers.

The published version of events excludes this account and indeed gives no itemized blow-by-blow account. But it is nonetheless frank about the shortcomings of the party and other institutions and represents them as a contributory cause to the various crises.

Sikh terrorists strike again

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sikh terrorists struck again in the strife-torn Punjab state yesterday killing a police inspector and injuring a constable. Two unexploded grenades were found in a police station yard, apparently thrown over the fence in the night.

Fear of the indiscriminate bombings over the past few days meant smaller crowds celebrating the Dussehra holidays in Delhi and the Punjab towns.

In Ludhiana all the Hindu temples were closed after a hand grenade was thrown into the Mother Durga temple, injuring two men. A procession of protest was dispersed by police using lathis and tear gas, leaving six demonstrators hurt, according to the temple president.

The police officers were shot at after they boarded a bus on the outskirts of Amritsar, the Sikh's holy city. Sub-inspector Amar Singh died, and Head Constable Mahen Singh was

wounded. The two men who shot them ran off with the inspector's revolver. The constable was later said to be out of danger in hospital.

The unexploded grenades, which were lobbed into the garden of Chandigarh police station in the early hours of yesterday, came wrapped in notes which announced that the hit-list of people to be assassinated by the terrorists had been increased. It now included the names of Mr Charan Singh, a former prime minister and leader of the Lok Dal, his partner in the National Democratic Alliance, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, of the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Chief Minister of Haryana, Mr Bhajan Lal; and the head of the right-wing RSS Hindu party, Mr Bala Sahab Deoras.

The notes also said that Hindus would be killed if the security forces persecuted the Guru Nanak Nivas, the lodging house across a path from the Golden Temple in Amritsar, which shelters a number of extremist leaders including Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

Whether the Golden Temple is actually part of the Golden Temple may become the subject of much debate. It is part of a group of buildings which houses the temple management committee, and the leaders of the Akali Dal, the Sikh political party. But the road that separates it from the temple is a public one.

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has declared that the authorities will never violate the sanctity of the temple, but she is being constantly urged to clear out the people who have made the lodging houses associated with it a virtual armed camp.

To protest against what they see as moves to legalize the killings of Sikh youths in fake encounters, the Sikh student organization is planning a day of strikes on October 26.

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Zimbabwe's whites vote with their feet

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Zimbabwe's white community, ever sensitive to the tone of current political rhetoric, has been left feeling more than usually vulnerable by recent Government threats to confiscate land from farmers and references to "British settlers".

Even before the latest round of sniping, white migration had been showing a sharp upturn, possibly because of belt-tightening which is souring the good life for many. The continuing repercussions of the Air Force trial - bitterness among whites at a perceived injustice and stain in relations with Western nations which has given rise to the Government's outbursts - have made matters worse.

The most recent statistics show that 1,960 people will have been white, left Zimbabwe in July. The highest monthly figure for almost two years and as a percentage of a constantly diminishing white population quite dramatically high.

From a figure of about 223,000 at independence, the white population has dropped to an estimate of between

140,000 and 150,000. Of these about 45,000 are registered as "quality" whites - British nationals and there are perhaps another 20,000 not yet registered.

Most still have an ambivalent attitude to the mother country, stemming from the UDI years and the knowledge that adjustment to life in Britain would be painful. Nevertheless, if the Government scrapped the dual nationality clause in the constitution, as it has threatened before, most whites who qualified would probably opt for British nationality.

The traditional white attitudes, exploited over the years of Rhodesian Front government, that racial privilege and job exclusivity be maintained have, of course, disappeared. The whites who remain are generally careful not to give offence to black sensitivities, some perhaps only because of the possible consequences.

White perspectives and expectations are changing. Now whites are joining blacks in feeling the effects of Zimbabwe's deteriorating economic performance. No longer does the controlled salary of a low to

middle-ranking executive automatically confer the trappings and life-style which whites have always enjoyed in southern Africa. Inflation and tax increases have curbed the buying power of all wage-earners, especially those on the lower levels.

Meanwhile, the growing army of those who have no employment at all is coming to represent another fear. Crime and banditry are on the increase with no prospect at present of work for tens of thousands of school-leavers coming on to the market every year.

If morale in the commercial and industrial sector is low it is hardly less so in a community the Government regards as intrinsically important to the country - the farmers.

The effects of two years of drought, a squatter problem and uncertainty over government intentions on the land issue have combined to make farmers here probably more worried than at any time since independence.

The authorities have attempted to come to terms with the squatter problem, though

courting unpopularity with rural people in the process. But on the overall question of land acquisition and redistribution the Government's plans are not clear.

Mr Morven Mahachi, the Minister of Lands, slammed the recent annual congress of the Commercial Farmers' Union when, referring to legislation being drafted, he said the Government would expropriate land which it deemed to be underutilized.

Nevertheless the farmers, with little opportunity to start again elsewhere, are more wedded to Zimbabwe than any other sector of the white population. One farmer said recently: "If whites had things so easy and if South Africa was not such an easy bolt-hole more people would have stayed."

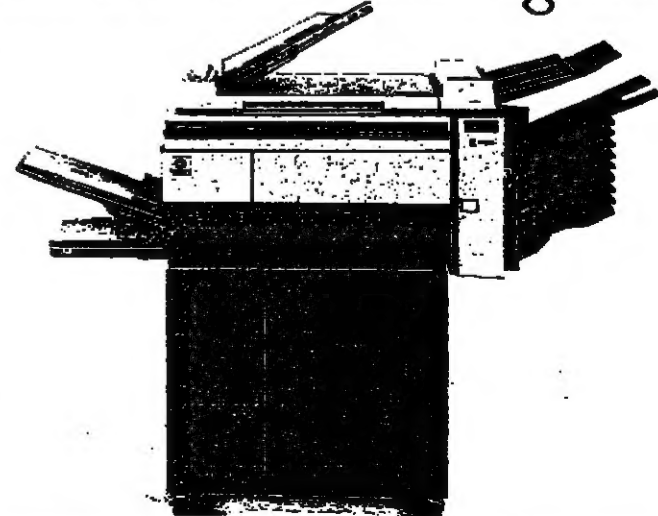
For all the concern over recent statements farmers will be thinking more about the rains which must start to fall in the next two months if there is not to be a third year of drought with disastrous consequences for the country as a whole.

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T/19/10

Germans anxious to keep talks with Russia open despite Vienna deadlock

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Did Geneva collapse in Vienna? Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he did not now see much chance of an arms agreement at Geneva, and commentators see the failure of 11 hours of talks in Vienna between Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart, to alter the Soviet position, as making the chances for agreement in Geneva even slimmer.

Indeed Dr Kohl said on television that the present international situation was like that of 1938. He recalled that Britain and France gave way to Hitler by signing the Munich agreement.

If the West did not tell the Soviet Union plainly today that it would not accept Moscow's continuous, unilateral build-up of arms, then the Russians would not understand that the West was prepared to support peace and freedom with utmost determination.

However, Bonn is still insisting that the Vienna meeting at the weekend kept open an essential East-West dialogue, and may yet have persuaded the Russians not to break off negotiations after the November 21 deadline.

To Soviet insistence that

talks could not continue if deployment went ahead, Herr Genscher said that the West had been negotiating since 1979 while the Russians had steadily built up their SS20 arsenal, now numbering 369 missiles.

The argument between the two longest-serving foreign ministers in East and West was described as tough, frank, and businesslike.

But for both it was also an exercise in "damage limitation". Herr Genscher insisted that East-West relations could not be reduced to the level of the Geneva arms talks. Mr Gromyko agreed vigorously that general political relations could still be improved, and economic links were still vital.

No one here is surprised by the failure to alter the Soviet view at Geneva. The Russians have no interest in undercutting the powerful West German peace movement. Indeed, they gave Herr Genscher clear indications that the Soviet Union would take immediate military counter-measures if deployment went ahead.

It was probably to discuss this that Mr Gromyko yesterday flew on to East Berlin, where he held talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

Women stage missile protest

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

It was the turn yesterday of women's movements in West Germany to protest against the impending deployment of Nato missiles. Groups of women wearing black mourning clothes held demonstrations in Bonn outside the Defence and Family Affairs Ministries.

Some carried placards equating the Pershing 2 missiles with male domination, and elsewhere in the country protests were held outside army barracks, sex shops, and other places considered hostile to women.

The demonstrations followed the huge gatherings at the weekend in Hamburg, Berlin, Bonn and at American bases, in which police estimated some 24,000 people took part.

Few incidents were reported at the largely peaceful blockades of American bases, except in Bremerhaven on Saturday, when police arrested about 200 naked demonstrators dressed in black, who threw stones near the Karl Schurz barracks on the final day of the protest there.

The coordinators of the peace movement's action week have disavowed these autonomous groups intent on provoking violence.

The organizers voted, after long debate over the weekend, to invite Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, to address the final rally in Bonn on Saturday, at which some 300,000 people are expected. It is almost certain that he will accept.

As a holder of the Nobel Peace Prize, his presence is of enormous significance, and as a former Chancellor it will make it almost impossible for the Government to depict the demonstrations as being mainly Communist inspired and influenced.

Strong support was given to the opponents of deployment yesterday by Mr Robert McNamara, the influential former American Secretary of Defence, who expressed doubts about the military usefulness of the new Nato missiles.

He said in an interview with *Der Spiegel* that it was a fair question whether the missiles would provide additional security. "In my perception, none at all. The weapons will increase neither the security of Western Europe nor that of Nato. I see no military necessity for their deployment."

Princess not a libber

Sydney (Reuters) - Princess Anne told listeners to a radio phone-in programme in Australia yesterday that members of the women's liberation movement were their own worst enemies. She said she was "not a great women's libber".

Women were "more likely to improve things by quiet endeavour than by stridency".

The Princess, aged 33, is in Australia for a private visit with her husband, Captain Mark Phillips.

She appeared on a television chat show last week, telling viewers she would have liked to have been a truck driver if she had been born a commoner.

She said yesterday she did not always do what people expect a princess to do. "I don't like performing for anybody. We (the royal family) are meant to be different, but we are not."

Truck driver 'smiled' after motel death ride

From Tony Dubondis, Melbourne

The skill with which the driver of a lorry crashed through the bar of the Inland Motel at the foot of Ayers Rock, killing five people, had shown his "murderous intent", the Alice Springs magistrates' court was told yesterday.

Douglas John Edwin Crabbe, aged 36, was charged with the murder of five people on August 18: 20 other people were injured when the "road train" (lorry and trailers) ploughed into the bar.

Mr John McMaster, the Crown prosecutor, said that Mr Crabbe was a very experienced driver and his skill in manoeuvring his "road train" into the bar demonstrated murderous intent. The prosecution alleges that no brakes were applied as the lorry made a left-hand turn and crashed through the double doors of the Inland Motel.

"It came to rest against a wall

near a take-away food bar and its progress was only halted by a trailer which jammed on the roof of the bar", Mr McMaster said. "The bar was still illuminated and two witnesses identified Crabbe as the man who got out of the truck."

"One man, pinned by the debris beneath the driver's side wheel, was calling for help. There will be evidence that he saw Crabbe get out of the cabin, smile and run off."

The court was also told that one of two trailers had been removed earlier from the lorry. Mr McMaster said the police would allege that this was done to enable the truck to negotiate an otherwise impossible turn round a blind corner which led to the bar door.

The prosecutor said witnesses would say that Mr Crabbe had shown no sign of intoxication when leaving the same bar 40 minutes before the crash.



Rise and shine: Mr and Mrs Debrau celebrating at breakfast in California yesterday.

Nobel for US economist

Stockholm (Reuters, AP) - The French-born American mathematician Mr Gerard Debrau, described by scholars as a neutral theoretician, won the 1983 Nobel Prize for economics yesterday.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said it awarded him the \$128,000 prize for "having incorporated new analytical methods into economic theory and his rigorous reformulation of the theory of general equilibrium".

From his Oakland, California home yesterday the 62-year-old scientist said he had had no official word from Stockholm but had received many congratulations on a prize which he hoped he would win. "I am very, very pleased."

"I like to think that what I am doing is scientific and try to avoid political overtones."

Some university professors interpreted the award to Mr Debrau as a move back to honouring pure scientific work. The academy has recently chosen macro-economists with links to politicians.

The 1976 award to the Chicago monetarist Milton Friedman, who inspired the policies of President Reagan and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, was especially controversial.

Mr Debrau, who was born in Calais, but became an American citizen in 1975, the same year he took up his present post as professor of mathematics at the University of California, Berkeley.

The academy said he had done penetrating basic work in proving mathematically a hypothesis of the eighteenth century economist Adam Smith: that there is balance between supply and demand in an ideal, competitive free market.

His model of the market economy was set out in his main book, *Theory of Value*, published in the 1950s, which scholars described as a remarkable text of only 80 pages.

Some scholars, however, expressed surprise at the award, saying that more important work in the same field was achieved by the 1972 winners Mr John Hicks of Britain and Mr Kenneth Arrow of the United States.

Socialist premiers explain failures

From Marie Mediane, Athens

The Socialist Prime Ministers of five southern European countries have blamed world economic recession for their failure to work the miracles expected of them, and for their resorting instead to austerity measures which undermine their popularity.

Mr Andreas Papandreu of Greece was host to the informal meeting at a beach resort near Athens, which brought together Dr Mario Soares of Portugal, Señor Felipe González of Spain, M Pierre Mauroy of France and Signor Bettino Craxi of Italy for the first time since all came to office.

Sunday and yesterday they met to compare experiences, and also to discuss international tensions and the proposed entry of Spain and Portugal to the EEC.

Mr Papandreu told a press conference that there had been an impressive convergence of views. "We may now speak of a contemporary, Mediterranean, European socialism," he said.

But he gave warning that the world's reactionaries had launched a gigantic counter-offensive against the countries that had socialist governments, using such "right-wing strongholds" as the world bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The five leaders were inclined to agree that until socialism could produce its own answer to the world's economic crisis, they should be content to just administer it in a more equitable way than President Reagan, Mrs Margaret Thatcher or Chancellor Kohl administered capitalism.

They all espoused a proposal by Mr Papandreu for closer economic cooperation among their countries.

Spain and Portugal also emphasized cooperation and unity from the point of view of their joining the European Community. "We have waited for too long," Señor González said. "If the community reforms its agricultural policies without taking account of Spain, we shall revise that dimension of our foreign policy."

M Mauroy, however, was adamant: "The Stuttgart summit decided that all our problems should be put on the table."

We must first know our policy on Mediterranean farm products before the community can be enlarged."

MADRID: Señor González warning in Athens, that Spain might lose interest in the Community unless it is allowed to join soon, led one Madrid newspaper to comment yesterday that the socialist leaders are the verge of turning the Parthenon into a Pantheon, "the last resting place of the great supranationalist idea of a United Europe" (Harry Debrau writes).



In the bag: President Reagan returning from Camp David with acorns for the White House squirrels.

Sic transit gloria money

From John Earle, Rome

Do you need *consiliarium adversus inflationem* (a consultant against inflation)? Fideamus, the financial consultancy subsidiary of the Italian state-owned lending institute IMI (Istituto Mobiliare Italiano), has taken a quarter page in the Vatican newspaper, *Osservatore Romano*, for the first advertisement in Latin by an Italian banking group.

The reader's eye is caught by a photograph of a young, bespectacled *consiliarium nummarius* (Financial adviser) showing his papers to a middle-aged man in an armchair. "Et tu?" it asks underneath. "You could join the *ducenta undecim milia attentorum pecuniae servatorium* (the 211,000 careful preservers of their wealth) who are already being served through the group's *recentia ageriarie* (300 banking branches)."

All you have to do is *sume elenchum telephonicum* (take the telephone directory) and seek the nearest branch, and you will be visited *sine ulla obligatione* (without any obligation) by a consultant in *domo tua* (in your home).

The group has evidently chosen the pages of the *Osservatore*, whose 50,000 copies circulate among churchmen of many nationalities, to reach readers used in the past to dealing with the Vatican Bank, the *Istituto per le Opere di Religione* (IOR).

French right chalks up third local victory

From Diana Goldes, Paris

"Another town liberated", went up the cry from right-wing sympathisers in Antony, a town of 57,000 on the western outskirts of Paris on learning that the Gaullist RPR had won the municipal elections last March. As in Sarcelles and Dreux, the by-election was called because of fraud in the original poll. Also like Sarcelles and Dreux the campaign was a dirty one and involved several violent clashes between left and right.

A delighted opposition has hailed each local defeat of the left as further proof of the collapse of national confidence in the Government. An analysis of local by-elections since the beginning of this year indicates that the Government has only about 45 per cent of support in the country and the opposition 55 per cent.

The left, for its part, tries to shrug off each successive defeat - there have been more in smaller towns - as a purely local phenomenon which is only to be expected in "mid-term" elections. It has also sought to denigrate the opposition's victory by claiming that it is the result of unholy alliance with extreme right racist groups, such as the National Front.

That was certainly true in Dreux, a town where nearly a quarter of the population are

Scandals a touchy subject in Moscow

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Russians privately enjoy a scandal as much as anyone, so it is surprising how little impact the Parkinson affair has had in Moscow.

Pravda made its first comment yesterday on the Conservative Party conference, but despite a promising headline - "The celebration that never was" - most of the shafts were aimed at Mrs Thatcher and Mr Telsbit, with no mention of Mr Parkinson or Miss Kearsy.

Tass did refer in a report on Mrs Thatcher's reshuffle to a "scandal connected with Mr Parkinson's immoral behaviour", but that was all.

The affair would seem tailor-made to fit Marxist theories about the decline of late Capitalism, and further homilies are no doubt in the works. Soviet residence, in the meantime, may have something to do with the fact that *Pravda* has quietly reported a number of home-grown scandals and disasters recently, without any need for foreign imports.

Corruption in high places has been given carefully controlled exposure since Mr Andropov came to power, the object being to reinforce the Soviet leader's austere campaign for discipline and efficiency while discrediting his predecessor.

Ministers who served Mr Brezhnev loyally over many years suddenly found themselves exposed as scoundrels, though their misdeeds are mostly financial rather than sexual.

One minister who fell from grace was rumoured to have a private sauna next to his office. Most seem to have been fatally tempted by goods and money, rather than women, however.

The most recent example is the Russian Minister for Light Industry, whose downfall was associated with that of the Minister for Fruit and Vegetables. Both were accused of "rampant fraud and embezzlement". Transport officials have similarly been upbraided.

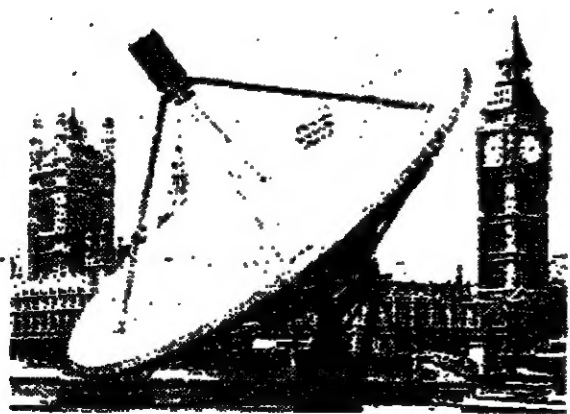
The deputy head of the musical agency, Rosskonert, was last week sentenced to 10 years in prison for demanding money and gifts from performers. Among his ill-gotten loot, the court was told, were jewelry, after-shave, an ice bucket, western pullovers and a folding umbrella.

Sensationalism is unknown in the Soviet press, and items of gossip or scandal are tucked away in small, soberly-worded articles. They are only released when it suits the Kremlin politically, or to encourage "responsible" behaviour by Soviet citizens.

It would be a pity if the Politburo's latest intention to the press to step up "ideological propaganda" was to eliminate these occasional oblique glimpses into human mystery and misdeeds altogether. Russians are a particularly frisson of excitement last week over the strange disappearance in Venice of Mr Oleg Bitov, a correspondent for the *Literary Gazette*. Defection or murder?

The paper, in a black-edged article, plumped for murder by the CIA, on the grounds that Mr Bitov had been investigating an aspect of the assassination attempt on the Pope in 1981. Many readers, however, seemed to favour kidnapping or death at the hands of the Mafia or the Red Brigades.

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Iran needs to keep open Strait of Hormuz to pay for its war effort

Bandar Abbas, Iran (Reuters) - The scene at this Iranian port underlines why Iran is threatening to close the Strait of Hormuz only as a last resort in its three-year-old war with Iraq.

More than 70 cargo ships are strung out in a queue waiting to enter the port, just inside the Strait as the entrance to the Gulf, and unload military supplies, food and construction materials vital to Iran's war effort and economy.

Beyond the last ship, invisible in the heat haze, tankers are steaming south carrying the oil exports which are Iran's only means of earning money to continue the war.

If the Strait of Hormuz was closed, a sixth of the Western world's oil imports would be cut off, but so would Iran's own lifeline to the outside world. Iranian statements emphasize that the Strait will be closed only if Iraq attacks the base already stopped. Iran's oil exports and left it with nothing to lose.

"The Persian Gulf is secure as long as Iran has normal activities of the export of oil through this waterway," the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, declared at a press conference in Tehran. But if any power tried to stop Iran exporting its oil, "then the Persian Gulf has no importance to us" and the Strait would be closed.

Diplomats in Tehran have no doubt Iran would carry out its threat if forced to, but they believe the main aim of Tehran's tough talking is to preserve the existing situation in the Gulf by deterring Iraq from any dramatic move.

The present situation favours Iran; it is able to use the Gulf to export 1.8 million barrels a day of oil, more than enough to pay for the war and sustain the economy.

It can also take in supplies at Bandar Abbas, where a huge new port is partly in use and nearing completion. The project lies a few miles along the coast from the existing port, which is also Iran's main naval base.

By contrast, Iraq's main port of Basra, up the Shatt al-Arab riverway at the head of the Gulf, has been shut since the first days of the war in September, 1980. Its main oil

terminals, floating off shore in the northern Gulf, have been closed and damaged by Iranian attacks.

Iraq can now export only about 700,000 barrels a day of oil through a single pipeline across Turkey and is having to borrow to keep fighting.

If Iran did decide to block the Strait of Hormuz, it would involve its Navy in its first large-scale operations of the war. On paper, the Iranian Navy is the most powerful in the region, with 12 capital ships, but little is known about how it has fared since the 1979 Islamic revolution which overthrew the Shah and led to widespread purges in the armed forces.

Concrete shells of unfinished apartment blocks line the coast between the town of Bandar Abbas and the naval base.

The Iranian Army and Air Force have both proved during the war that purges and restrictions on the supply of spare parts from Western arms manufacturers have merely reduced, not eliminated, their fighting strength.

Looking in from outside, there was little to see at the naval base. The only Navy vessel in sight was a white passenger liner which local sources said was being used to house several hundred sailors until apartment blocks on shore could be finished.



Mandarins with their hands in the till



CHINA Part 2: Corruption
Last week the Chinese Communist Party announced a widespread purge of its ranks. Among the victims will be corrupt and irresponsible officials. David Bonavia, Peking Correspondent, in this second and concluding article on crime and corruption in China, reports on the illicit activities of these officials.

From illegally building houses to misappropriating dwarf trees, China's bureaucrats have been enjoying an unprecedented spree of corruption and malfeasance in recent years.

Partly because of the lifting of the ban on conspicuous consumption, which the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung tried rigorously to enforce, the public till has been tampered with by millions of fingers in the Government and Communist Party.

The increase in corruption may not be as great as it seems, because there has been a big effort in the press to expose cases which previously would have been dealt with secretly to preserve China's good image.

Corruption is an historical phenomenon of great antiquity, to some extent because officials were not paid enough by the Imperial Court to maintain themselves in an appropriate style, and were under constant temptation to enrich themselves at the expense of the people they administered.

Nowadays, it may be necessary to bribe an official to find accommodation, get promotion or send one's children to university. This kind of corruption - called "going through the back door" - is routine.



Old habits die hard: Black market cigarettes on sale in Wuhan at inflated prices

What really angers the leadership is malfeasance and embezzlement at people's places of work. The bureaucracy is

Mass execution
Another mass execution of criminals has been carried out in Peking, according to informed sources. Some 40 or 50 people were shot last Saturday for crimes of violence or malfeasance on a large scale.

The bribes usually take the form of gifts, especially imported cassette recorders, colour television sets and watches. The better brands of Chinese cigarettes and liquor are also popular.

Another form of corruption is string-pulling through relatives or so-called contact-families - with whom one is allied by marriage or common interest. One favour will be repaid with another. This practice is hard for the authorities to prevent.

One of the commonest malpractices is the theft of materials from public sites to be used to build houses for officials and their families on land extorted from rural communes.

The head of a county finance office in the southern province of Guangdong, for instance, had an 18-room house built for himself and his three sons - an unheard-of luxury. He got the construction materials at a discount from a local building firm by promising to pass on other, more lucrative, contracts through his influence. He was exposed and sentenced.

In the same province's capital of Canton, a vice-chairman of the city economic committee persuaded communes to deliver a large number of bouzai miniature trees and landscapes to him, then sold them for export and pocketed the money.

In China's most populous province of Sichuan, with a population of more than 80 million, 18,400 cases of economic crime were investigated, and 120 high-ranking officials were implicated in 1982.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the elder statesman, is believed to be particularly anxious to suppress corruption because his political rivals and critics have blamed his relatively liberal economic and cultural policies.

Concluded

Prisoners of conscience



Philippines: Karl Gaspar

By Caroline Moorehead

Mr Karl Gaspar, aged 35, a lay church worker and executive secretary of the Resources Development Foundation, is being held under presidential decree in Davao City Jail. He is accused of "conspiracy to commit rebellion" and of the illegal possession of firearms and subversive documents.

He is reported in good health, although weakened by hunger strikes in protest against the torture and killing of fellow prisoners.

Mr Gaspar studied economics at the Ateneo de Davao university before taking up teaching and becoming involved in programmes of church and social development. On March 26 this year, soon after being appointed secretary of the RDF, he "disappeared".

Some days later, friends learned that he was in detention in the barracks of the Davao City headquarters of the Philippines Constabulary and that he was being held under presidential decree, the notorious Presidential Commitment Order or PCO which allows the President to hold suspects indefinitely and without trial.

Widespread protest against the decree has since resulted in it being replaced by a Preventive Detention Action (PDA), now generally agreed to be little different from its predecessor.

At an initial hearing of Gaspar's case witnesses said that there had been no warrant for his arrest, and no charges filed against him with any court or government agency. Incriminating documents and firearms produced by the prosecution were revealed to have been taken from Mr Gaspar's home but supposedly from his office, some time later.



Mr Gaspar: Weakened by hunger strikes

Marcos to change voting rules

From Keith Dalton Manila

The ruling party in the Philippines, the New Society Movement, has approved changes to the electoral code which, President Marcos said yesterday, would give the opposition "a sporting chance" in next May's parliamentary elections.

Apparently aimed at appeasing the increasingly vocal opposition, the changes were approved during a three-hour party caucus, and will be presented to the government-dominated National Assembly today, when it meets in a special session as a constituent body to draft the code amendments.

The most significant change is the reintroduction of provincial elections. Under the Marcos Government regional polls have been held which, because they cover large and diverse provinces, have generally favoured the ruling party's unrivalled political machine.

Block voting has also been abolished. In past elections this enabled government voters simply to write the ruling party's initials on the ballot paper, while a vote for the opposition required the voter to list every candidate's name.

Full political rights will be given to political conditions, and representation will be allowed on citizens' electoral committees to oversee polling.

"We want to give as many concessions as possible to the opposition, to give them all the chances in the election", Mr Marcos said.

The amended electoral code, which is sure to be passed by the National Assembly, will be submitted to a plebiscite, probably in December.

The problems confronting the Philippines today do not compare to the "dangers and sacrifices" which were part of everyday life before the imposition of martial law 11 years ago, Mr Marcos told a party caucus meeting.

During the meeting Mr Marcos renewed his invitation to the opposition to nominate two members to the commission on elections which will organize and conduct the May elections.

Opposition leader Mr Salvador Laurel said this offer was illegal and violated the constitution, which stated that the commission should be independent.

He called Mr Marcos to "take a vacation or sick leave", and hand over to a caretaker government to restore democracy.

Mr Laurel who is president of a 12-party opposition alliance, said he rejected any dialogue with Mr Marcos that would "perpetuate his one-man dictatorship", and said a caretaker government may be the last chance to avoid bloodshed. "If he refuses he will just go down fighting with his boots on."

Australia omits God and Queen from oath

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne

There will be no reference to the Queen or God in the proposed new Oath of Allegiance to be taken by people wishing to take out Australian citizenship.

The new oath was among a number of changes to the Citizenship Act announced at the weekend by Mr Stewart West, the Immigration Minister.

Speaking on television in Canberra, Mr West said that many non-English-speaking immigrants who had become

permanent residents objected to swearing allegiance to the Queen.

"People no longer want to be referred as British subjects", Mr West said. "They know that the most important thing is really Australian nationalism, and the allies that we have around the world, and we are no longer just a colony of the British Crown."

The announcement brought a quick response from Mr Michael Hodgeman, the shadow Immigration Minister, who said it was a first step towards a socialist republic.

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Merry Christmas, Dr Hardie



In addition to its account of suffering and death at the hands of the Japanese, the secret diary of Dr Robert Hardie - kept on stolen scraps of paper and carefully hidden from his captors - depicts many other aspects of life among the Allied prisoners of war working on the Burma-Siam railway between 1942 and 1945.

Dr Hardie, a medical officer with the Malayan Volunteer Field Ambulance who found himself in Japanese hands after the fall of Singapore, showed an interest in the flora and fauna along the banks of the River Kwai, reflected not only in his writings but also in the watercolours and pencil sketches which are contained in the diary, published this week.

Nor were his moral judgments bound by the wartime battle lines. He was as capable of appreciating the occasional kindness shown by a Japanese guard as he was of criticising those among his fellow officers who, he felt, did not act in the best interests of their comrades.

In this second of three extracts from the diary, he records, along with the ever-present misery and brutality, some of the lighter moments of his time in the camps at Takamun and Chungkai.

DECEMBER 21, 1943

The night before last, shortly after 11.30pm, a big aeroplane was heard going south-east overhead. Another and another followed at intervals. Between 3 and 5am they passed overhead again, going back. It was a cheering sound.

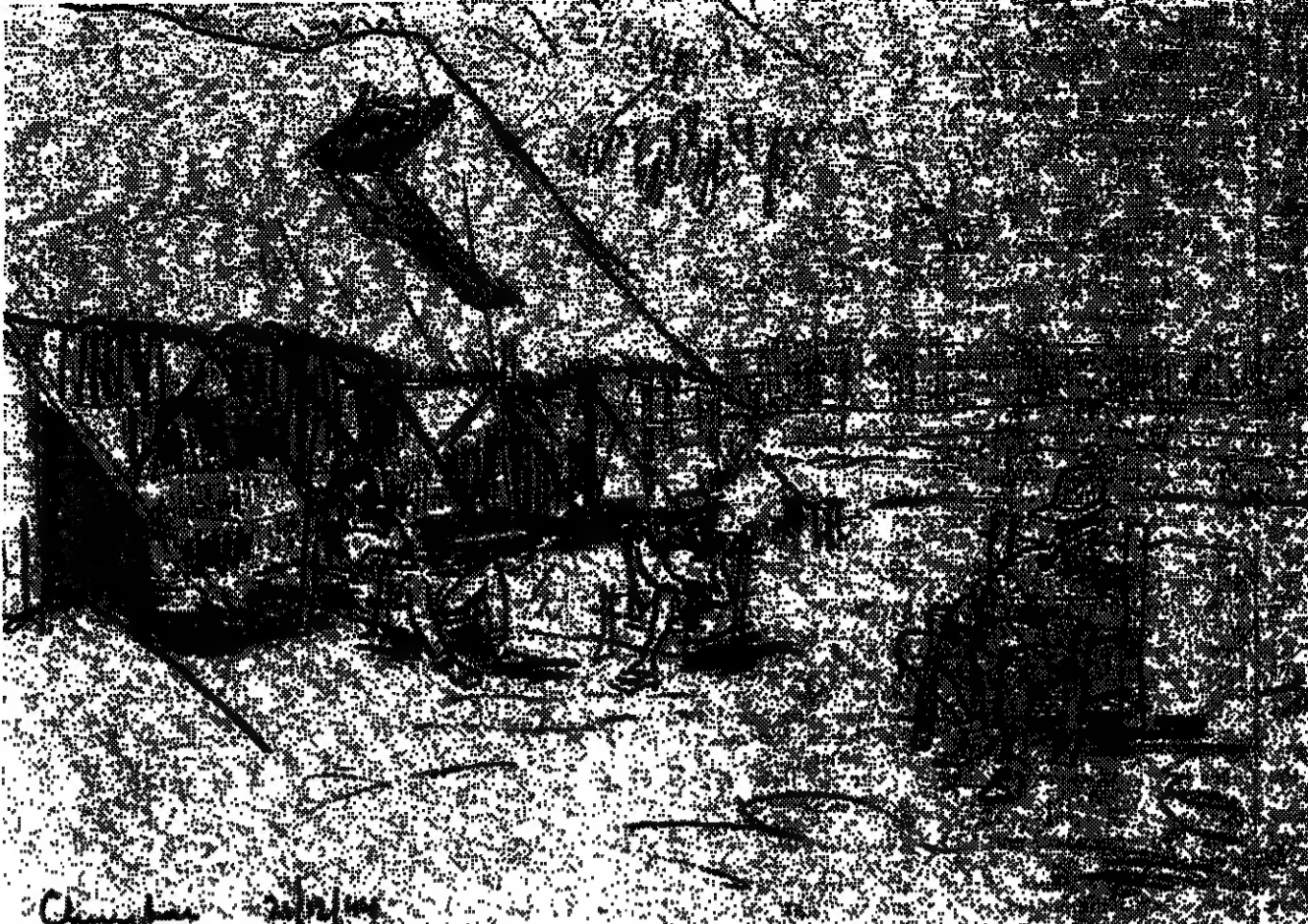
DECEMBER 24, 1943

Work in this camp has been fairly light recently, and Japanese pressure has been relaxed. We are to have a whole holiday tomorrow (Christmas Day) and all sorts of preparations are in progress. There is to be a football match between officers and men, a "race meeting" on some rough sand and gravel on the river bank, and in the evening a pantomime on an improvised stage facing a high gravel-and-earth bank. Various strange beers have been brewed, and great efforts in the cooking line are rumoured.

DECEMBER 26, 1943

Yesterday, Christmas Day, was a very remarkable and enjoyable occasion. A great *tour de force* by the cooks, who had been saving things up over a long period, produced a wonderful series of meals in the hospital.

Abridged from *The Burma-Siam Railway: The Secret Diary of Dr Robert Hardie*, published on October 25 by Imperial War Museum Publications, price £9.95.



Robert Hardie's sketch of the hospital camp at Chungkai, 1944

Breakfast, at nine, was rice porridge with lactogen milk; followed by a fried egg, some thick fried pork and fried sweet potatoes; also a tapioca flour roll with a piece of margarine and a good dollop of lime marmalade.

Lunch in the middle of the day was two fish rissoles, following a plate of beef-and-meat soup, two slices of cold beef, some vegetable marrow and some pickles of cucumber and Chinese radish. To wind up, a cup of tea with milk.

Dinner was a veg-and-meat soup; roast beef with fried sweet potatoes and pumpkin; for pudding, a baked ginger pudding and a sauce made with lime; savoury, a sardine on a fried rice biscuit. Dessert, fresh sections of the citrus pomelo; finally coffee with milk.

This sounds as if we were living on the fat of the land. It is true our rations are much better than they were, and we get a certain amount of fresh vegetable. But actually the elaborate menu given above is based on quite a few extras - the Japs allowed us to kill specially for this occasion one pig and one of the cattle.

The men won the football match 5-2. The horse race, with bookies, was passably amusing. The pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* was a remarkable performance. Singing continued far into the night and for a wonder did not lead to any trouble with the Nip guards. One must admit that the Nips

allowed a considerable degree of latitude.

Altogether it was a quite remarkably fine celebration for a remote jungle camp miles from anywhere.

DECEMBER 31, 1943

This is the last day of 1943, a year to be said goodbye to without regret, holding as it did nothing beyond captivity and depression, weary waiting, and above all the sight of immeasurable human misery, suffering and death.

JANUARY 7, 1944

A Chinese labourer, with a huge deep sloughing ulcer on his leg, so bad that he cannot walk at all, is making his way to the coolie hospital camp a couple of kilometres down the line. He gets along seated, lifting himself along by his arms - slow progress. The anti-malarial party has been taking him food from time to time. Colonel Williamson, our Indian Army camp commandant, has been asked to put a request forward to the Nips that we be allowed to send a party of officers with a stretcher to carry him down - there is a permanent Jap sentry on a bridge a little below this camp, past whom it is impossible to go without authority - but he has refused even to approach the Nips on the subject. The Chinese is a British subject from Singapore. One

can't but feel that if it had been a horse or a dog that was in question, he would have been more inclined to approach the Japs. At worst they can only say no.

FEBRUARY 24, 1944

Colonel Johnson has made a remarkably fine collection of orchids, mostly Dendrobium. He has a very striking one in flower at present - I walked down to his camp yesterday - oyster, veined with pink, with two very deep crimson patches on the outer lips of the under-most petal.

MARCH 19, 1944

About three weeks since my last entry. And now I am right down at Chungkai again, which I left over a year ago. Our evacuation of Takamun took place quite suddenly: at very short notice we were bundled into trains and came down here.

The camp is now enormous, with a very large hospital area. There is a very good canteen, run largely by volunteers. They produce very good extra dishes: stews, omelettes, soups, cakes, toffee-fudge (coconut, peanut and ginger), cigarettes, sambals, coffee. If one has money one can live very well. There is quite pleasant, if not very hygienic, bathing in the river. Existence is altogether more peaceful and pleasant than in the wilds at Takamun: my sleeping quarters in a big hut with the rest of our up-country party are, however, crowded and infested with bugs.

APRIL 2, 1944

There is a small bamboo and matting stage in the corner of this camp, where they have shows from time to time and concerts (there are a number of musical instruments - Red Cross, from Bangkok - in the camp. Yesterday there was an excellent performance of Somerset Maugham's *The Circle*).

MAY 21, 1944

Leo Britt's musical *Wonder Bar* was given last night (when I saw it) and the night before. It was astonishingly good in its way - amazing costumes made out of old mosquito netting, a few pieces of cloth and some dyes. The setting was also remarkably realistic. One could hardly believe it was made out of bamboo, a few pieces of wood and bamboo matting, with some whitewash paint and local coloured earths.

MAY 28, 1944

Dudley Godt's stage show, to which he gave the purely nonsense-name of *Thai Diddle-Diddle*, has been banned by the Nips. They have given no reason for this. There was nothing in it about the war, or about the Thais. My theory is that the Japanese interpreter looked up the word "diddle" in a dictionary, and finding that it meant "deceive" or "cheat", suspected some subtle criticism of the Co-Prosperity Sphere. It is astonishing how tortuous the Japanese are in some ways, and how unbelievably glib in others.

AUGUST 8, 1944

A Japanese private soldier, said to have been knifed by another in a pithouse brawl in Kanburi, has died. The Japanese have just given him a funeral. A basketball match and a concert which had been arranged in our camp were forbidden by the Japs on account of the ceremony. There is a striking contrast between this elaborate observance and the complete indifference of the Japanese to our own deaths - they didn't even stop playing tennis in this camp in the bad days when 15 or 16 bodies a day were being carried to the cemetery from our hospital, past their rough-earth tennis court.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1944

It is said that leaflets have been found along the river, obviously dropped by aeroplanes; they are said to claim that the war in Europe is going well for us.

One is reported to have in large letters a final exhortation: "Hold on! We are coming." This fills us with hope.

OCTOBER 31, 1944

Here are four Japanese propaganda stories which have appeared in either the *Nippon Times* (a paper published in Japan, in English) or the local Siamese papers:

An account is given of how one of the Japanese "War Eagles" (fighter pilots), finding himself out of ammunition when attacking American bombers, in desperation seized his "rice-cake" (presumably his lunch) and hurled it at an enemy bomber; it hit its mark and the bomber fell out of control.

Another War Eagle, out of ammunition in an attack on American ships in the Solomons, swooped on the bridge of a cruiser, drew his sword and, as he whizzed by, sliced off the American commander's head.

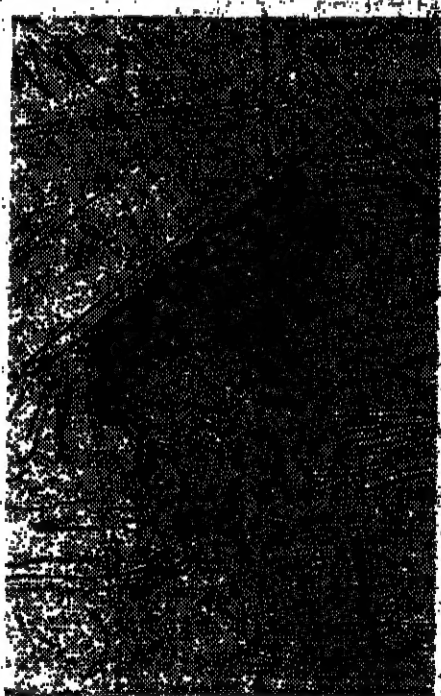
A pilot coming in to land found that his undercarriage had become shot away. Opening the throttle and pulling out into a circuit of the aerodrome to consider the situation, he had an idea. He hastily cut two holes in the floor of his cockpit with a knife. As he came in to land, he dropped his legs through these holes and, running desperately, ultimately brought his machine to a stop.

A second-class Japanese private has been specially decorated in the Pacific for carrying an important message from one island to another by swimming. The message was "no secret and important, to be sent by radio", so it was entrusted to a "surer means", and was delivered by the swimmer after he had been in the water for 48 hours.

NOVEMBER 28, 1944

Last night, about 6.45pm when I was playing baseball in the open recreation area, we heard the siren at Kanburi and all trooped off to the neighbourhood of our slit trenches. After nearly half-an-hour's waiting, a big four-engined bomber passed directly overhead, going east; when it was over the Kanburi area we saw three bombs fall. Two more bombers followed, and dropped their bombs at the same point.

When the all-clear came half an hour later it was quite dark, and we could see a red glow in the sky in the direction of Kanburi. A steam train and a diesel train went up the railway during the night, so the bridge is still all right.



Hardie also drew the locals.

DECEMBER 18, 1944

There has evidently been a bit of bombing up the line. People who have come over from Takamun report that about 40 wounded men came down there the other day from Bangkok and Wang Yai. Many were stretcher cases. They took eight days to cover 150 kilometres. They spent most of the time on sidings, the Japs evidently making little attempt to pass them down quickly. At Kinsayok the guards have become very violent since the bombing began. Men in their second and third day of malaria have been compelled to work. A lot of them are collapsing, and some parties of completely exhausted wrecks are coming down to Takamun from there.

DECEMBER 27, 1944

Another Christmas has come and gone. The Japanese made a special issue of extra meat and fruit. This is probably not spontaneous generosity, for we think that the Japanese are holding quite a sum of Red Cross money, though they will not explicitly say so.

The only discordant note on Christmas Day was provided by Kokuba, the Jap commandant. Obviously under the influence of liquor, he took a walk round the camp in the afternoon with a fellow officer. He unfortunately found a gap in an internal fence near a Dutch hut, and a perfectly innocent Dutchman who happened to be near it hand got a very severe beating.

I wonder if this is the last Christmas we shall spend in captivity?

© Elspeth Hardie 1983

TOMORROW
Dark hours before the dawn of freedom

moreover...
Miles Kington

Have a
nice read
y'all

New Orleans

It's difficult to know where conversation stops in America and where slogans begin. Does "Have a nice day" count as part of an exchange of ideas or just as a way of signing off a conversation? Even when it takes on a southern-tinge and comes out as "Y'all have a nice day" or "Have a nice day, now, you hear?", you can't help feeling that it's a kind of recorded message. When my American railway stamp was stamped into my passport, I was half-disappointed they hadn't printed "Have a nice trip" at the bottom.

It's even bigger than having a nice day. When I was queuing in the post office in Riverside Street, the clerk said to the woman in front of me: "Have a nice day" and, the woman, instead of letting well alone, said: "Thank you for serving me". The clerk then said it was nice to do business with her, and I was seized with terror lest the woman said she would tell all her friends to come and the clerk said to do that very thing and I would never get to buy stamps. When I bought some typing paper 10 minutes later at Woolworth's, and the cashier said: "Thank you for shopping at Woolworth's", I'm afraid I fled without replying.

Even inanimate objects sloganize at you. Trash cans in New Orleans sport a jocular sign saying "Throw something at me, Mister". The museum which is preparing an exhibition on Louis XIV art objects has a banner which says: "We're waiting for you, Eusebius", which is a bit of a joke on the name of the English jazz band. Even the New Orleans police cars have a quiet slogan on their back doors: "No protect you and to serve you". I know they don't really mean it, but if they ever throw me against a wall and kick me, I'll feel sure I shall turn round and say: "Thank you for protecting and serving me", and that this, somehow, is going to make things worse.

Another area rapidly being developed by Americans for spirit is their left shoulder, or what we would call a label. The TWA air steward on the way over had scribbled very clearly on his shoulder the word "Severe". It was his name. Furthermore he invited us to call him "Severe", which was a bit of a thing. We all felt vaguely inferior because we had flight attendants with our own names on our person.

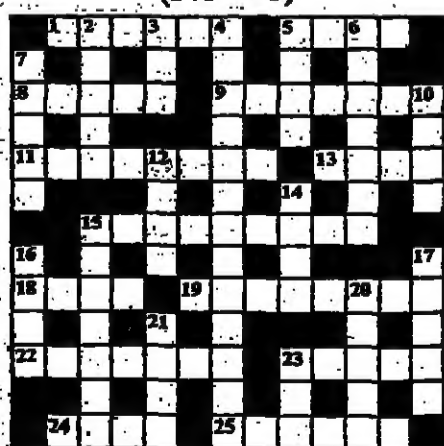
In New Orleans the art of writing on shoulders is well advanced. Waiters in the restaurants, employees of big stores, and their names written on, but the most common are people who go in hotel lobbies who have things like "Georgia Board of Education" or "American Planning Association" inscribed on their shoulders. These are people going to or from conventions, which is what works outages are called when they involve more than one firm and more than 400 people. Open any hotel door in New Orleans and you will find a convention going on behind it. Go into any lift and you will find silent people reading each other.

Things have not yet reached the state where you can be stopped by the police for not wearing something on your label but these are early days.

Yesterday, to escape from conventions, we went out into Audubon Park, a swathe of green occupied only by overweight joggers and bicyclists with headphones, and there mingled with a delightful picnic being held by 200 people and children, complete with barbecue and Cajun beer. Most of them had T-shirts reading "Latter & Blum", which I took to be the name of the school holding a fund-raising event. Not so. It's the name of a big local real estate firm, who were holding their annual outdoor shindig. It was merely a convention in rolled up shirtsleeves. So we plunged on further into the park.

"Look at the squirrels!" said my companion. I wanted to but didn't. I wasn't prepared to take the risk of seeing a squirrel with a badge reading: "Welcome to our park!"

CONCISE CROSSWORD
(No 178)



ACROSS
1. Stop (6)
3. Four in twenties (4)
4. Non-Jews (5)
5. Spiced croissant (7)
11. Of various styles (8)
13. In contact with (4)
15. Pegboard (9)
16. Bazaar (4)
18. Mines register (4,4)
22. Make gloomy (7)
23. Milt drink (5)
24. Tedious occasion (4)
25. Solar deity (3,3)

DOWN
2. Picturesque scene
3. Electrical resistance unit (3)
4. Bodily worm infestation (13)
5. TV set (4)
6. Friendly understanding (7)
7. Shoelace sheath (5)
8. Scope (4)
12. Frigid (4)
14. Candle centre (4)
15. House shoe (7)
16. In bed (4)
17. Feet (5)
20. Eskimo's home (5)
21. Isberg (4)
23. Junior (3)

SOLUTION TO No 177

ACROSS: 1 Nihil obstat 9 Belgrade 10 Gunga 11 Toe 13 Tury 16 Bite 17 Amazon 18 Ruck 20 Dye 21 Fumble 22 Iris 23 Gush 25 Rif 26 Tongue 28 Undershoot 30 Knuckle-down DOWN: 2 Kibitz 3 Iron 4 Carriage 5 Age 6 Annuity 7 Obiter dicta 8 Sea elephant 12 Otis 14 Yak 15 Kabuki 19 Chimney 20 Tug 24 USDAW 25 RAMC 26 Full 27 Chad



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THE ARTS

Television Areas of darkness

The relativity group at Cambridge are a dedicated bunch: scientists engaged on "an almost religious quest" to unearth "the fundamentals of the universe". What they hope to do before the end of the century is to produce one ultimate, consistent theory which will reconcile the conflict between Einstein's general theory of relativity and quantum mechanics and embrace all the other interactions in physics.

"We would", said Professor Stephen Hawking, Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, who heads the group and rates the chances of success at 50-50, "be able to predict everything" - though not, he added, human behaviour.

Professor Hawking's *Universe* was last night's Horizon programme on BBC 2, something of an imprecise title for the universe is ours. Cosmology is a part of Professor Hawking's studies that and everything else from a wheelchair to which he has been confined by a nervous disease in which atrophy of the muscles follows degenerative changes of the motor cells of spinal cord and brain.

He felt the first symptoms 20 years ago and was told it could kill him. But he now has a wife and three children, and has established himself as a great theoretical physicist. His body is shrunken and his voice little more than a croak. His students translate, as they did in last night's programme, and surround him with a moving atmosphere of respect and affection which his knowledge and personality obviously invoke.

He finds difficulty in reading, cannot write and thinks, explained a student, in diagrams. Cosmology he believes is one of the few fields where his disability would not be a handicap. His business is thinking and he believes his disabilities give him time. Professor Hawking became famous in 1973 with his discovery that black holes were not necessarily black; that some of them shone.

Black holes are considered to exist, I understand, where a star has collapsed, the gravitational pull of their fields being such that matter and energy cannot escape. Professor Hawking believes that there are small black holes which are not black at all, but he has not found one yet. If he did find one, he said, he would, doubtless get, a Nobel Prize.

He and his cheery band of disciples are looking hard. Each has an advanced degree, the youngest being a mere 17, and it seemed to be Horizon's presumption either that a BBC 2 audience contains an extraordinary number of advanced degrees or that it really did not matter as they were giving us a privileged glimpse of something that was really above our station.

One suspects that Professor Hawking would not go along with such a mandarin approach. The hallmark of his thought, said a student, was clarity. He made things simple. Obviously, he makes them funny too. Lecturing on infinity, which he pledged to bring nearer, he asked for questions and, receiving none, remarked: "I think everyone has understood everything or no one has understood anything."

I understood that Professor Hawking is an inspiring, brave and talented man. I wish someone had asked him about his CND badge but maybe it was thought that his views on survival should be a black hole, too.

Dennis Hackett

Picasso: Das Plastische Werk
Nationalgalerie

Julio Gonzales
Akademie der Künste

Camaro
Staatlichen Kunsthalle

Bilder vom Irdischen Glück
Schloss Charlottenburg

You would think, after the multiple extravaganzas of the century year, that there could be little new to be said about Picasso, at least in exhibition form. But that would be to underestimate, even now, the sheer fecundity of the man, his infinite variety. All the major shows of 1980-81 focused, very properly, on Picasso's painting and graphic art: they were after all the central activity of his long career. Sculptures inevitably turned up on the margins, but we would have to go back to 1966, and the Paris show which first revealed to the world that Picasso had been, on and off, a sculptor throughout his life, for any concentrated showing. Until that is, the truly mind-boggling show Picasso: Das Plastische Werk, which has just opened at the Nationalgalerie, Berlin, and stays there until November 27.

Two hundred works are on show, just under a third of Picasso's total output. It would be more than enough for most artists who made sculpture their central concern. But the extraordinary thing about Picasso was that he was also a more than competent conventional sculptor when he wanted to be, and his later games with assemblage and *objets trouvés* were not forced on him by technical deficiency. From there on, the sculpture keeps abreast of Picasso's changing styles of painting. We can see just where the influence of African and Oceanic art came in with some boldly conventionalized masks and the Cubist phase of dazzlingly represented by a group of reliefs which create the effect of the contemporary paintings in three dimensions instead of two without, astonishingly, losing any of the tension which one would imagine had to come, specifically from the

struggle to find a way of rendering volume on a flat surface. And this phase concludes with a group of wire sculptures, "drawing in the air", which are clearly among the seminal pieces of twentieth-century sculpture.

The Neo-Classical phase, as one might imagine, gives rise to more evidence of Picasso's proficiency as a sculptor in more conventional forms when he wants to be. At the same time, however, he starts experimenting regularly with assemblage, pressing into service anything that happens to be lying around. Sometimes literally pressing, into the clay he is modelling, sometimes gleefully following up forms suggested, as in the recumbent woman made entirely out of bricks and tiles and chimneys. It is at this period that the playful side comes most obviously to the fore: one cannot walk through the downstairs galleries of the Nationalgalerie without responding progressively to this great outburst of creative joy, the total delight of the maker in the making. And this feeling continues to the very end, with the old, old master making toys for his daughter and reverting in his

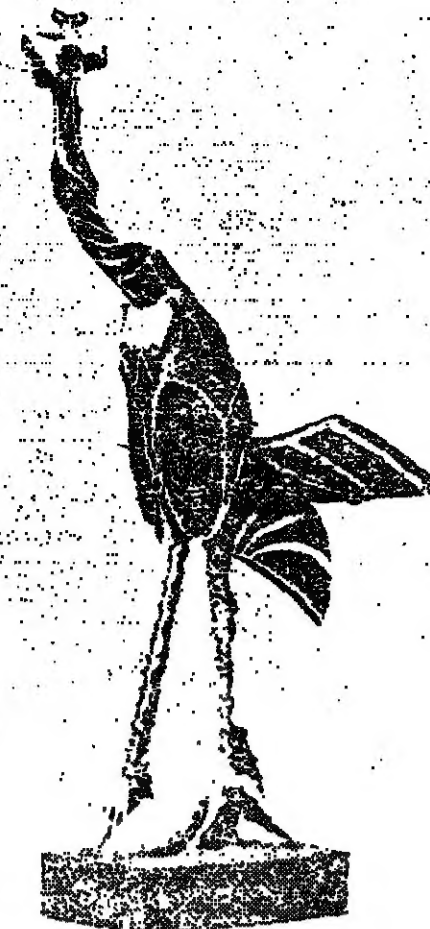


Reality selected and conventionalized to make a satisfying total gesture in space: Gonzalez's *Madame Cactus* (1939-40)

Creative joy of the maker in the making: Picasso's painted bronze *The Crane* (1952)

Galleries:
John Russell Taylor visits new exhibitions in Berlin

Massive revelation of a great painter's private delights



rather Rodin-influenced, heads, through the first cut-metal pieces of the Twenties (very period, of women in cloche hats) to the almost abstract pieces of his maturity. Almost, but not quite, for we can always follow the stages by which reality is selected and conventionalized to make a satisfying total gesture in space.

The show leaves no doubt - if there was any doubt before - that Gonzalez was a very great sculptor indeed. His shapes are constantly fascinating, on all levels, from all angles, and it is noticeable that, going through much the same political experiences as Picasso, he has to express the deepest concerns and the agony of Guernica in sculpture, while Picasso barely touches in his sculpture on such solemn themes. Gonzalez's later spiked and toothed figures reach an intensity of expression which for Picasso could exist only in paint: the shows are somehow complementary, and it says a lot for Gonzalez that he does not in any way suffer from the comparison, and to several respects had the advantage.

Elsewhere Berlin is in the midst of its usual artistic ferment. The current show at the Kunsthalle is of a painter I had never even heard of, Camaro, now 82 and still going strong with a large retrospective ranging from 1919 to this very year. Odd, really, to encounter at one fell swoop a whole lifetime's work, most of it charming and decorative and, in the series of semi-abstracts on Mexican themes painted in the Sixties, perhaps something more. The run of this show has been extended; so has that on the beginning of Russian modernism at the Akademie, which Paul Griffiths was writing about recently on this page, and which gives a rare opportunity to see in the West long-ignored works dredged up from the depths of Russian collections, public and private.

At the Charlottenburg there is a small exhibition (essentially just four paintings) called *Bilder vom Irdischen Glück* (until November 13), which in a spectacular gesture of solidarity gathers together a collaboration of Giorgione and Titian from the Louvre, a Rubens from the Prado and a Fragonard (long unseen by the public) from the Banque de France, all to draw attention to the urgent need of Berlin to purchase, by hook or by crook, the fourth, Watteau's *Embarquement pour Cythere*, long on loan to the Charlottenburg and now threatened by the determination of its present owner to sell it. The experience of seeing four transcendent masterpieces, on kindred themes, in one room is overpowering. Yet another thing you have to go to Berlin to see, and are likely never to see again.

Concerts

Berliner Band
Riverside

What have a straw hat, bottles of wine, a pair of legs and a clock, Charlie Chaplin, pistons, cars, a dancer viewed from below, a circle and triangle, eyes and a mouth opening and closing, and a lady swinging upside down in common? Your guess is as good as mine, but they are all images in Bernard Legere's marvellously surreal film *Ballet mécanique*, shown in the quirky, fascinating programme of music and film by John Harle's new ensemble, Berliner Band.

For this film, George Antheil conceived the most notorious and brilliant score for eight pianos, two aeroplane propellers and much else. But it was not in the end played with the film (though Lukas Foss matched the two in New York a couple of years ago with success) and, besides, Harle's biting, taut little band is more minimal in scope. So Michael Nyman was commissioned to write a new score, raunchy, repetitive, with a less eccentric originality than Antheil, but with some of his mechanistic exhilaration.

Almost the same scoring - three strings, one wind, piano and percussion, with accordion and the odd Reich-like vocal troupe - was used to adapt Erik Satie's own score for the hilarious film *Entrée*. This is a

text-book pre-minimalist score, for it is made out of musical building blocks which are repeated and juxtaposed at will to match the film's wild visions.

Satie himself appears, with his indispensable umbrella floating towards the camera, and after discussion with Picabia fires off a cannon which triggers a succession of events with mourners chasing a runaway hearse which dumps its coffin in a field.

Even the less than perfect prints and over-illuminated studio in which we watched these films, with two others that had effectively sparse new scores by Terry Davies and Matthew Scott, conjured up the manic searchings of the 1920s with sudden precision.

Nicholas Kenyon

LPO/Conlon
Festival Hall

Not the least puzzling among Mahler's mysteries was his decision to publish *Das klagende Lied* in only two parts instead of the three it originally comprised. A manuscript of the missing *Waldmädchen* passed to his nephew and thence to Yale University and on Sunday James Conlon added it in its intended place as the first part of Mahler's youthful cantata.

It makes a substantial work of some 70 minutes duration,

not as long as some of his symphonies but every bit as fascinating. The gothic ballad of a fratricide and its terrible consequences, when a bone of the victim is fashioned into a flute by a minstrel and promptly sings its sad story to all concerned, set Mahler's imagination in fertile invention. He gives one foretaste after another of his mature style in his writing for voices and instruments.

He was prodigal with his resources, discarding the solo bass after Part 1 and asking for an offstage band of 18 instruments in Part 3. Moreover, having to some extent identified the lamentation with the alto voice for much of the cantata, he exchanged it for the soprano right at the end. The sense of doom is thereby vitiated, unless it was simply that Ortrun Wenkel sang the alto music with wonderful eloquence on Sunday while Helena Doese made much less of the soprano, both in line and tone.

With Robert Tear and William Shimell completing the solo quartet, Mr Conlon's performance gave good reason for restoring the sombre gravity of the cantata's first part. He resisted any sentimental fingering in favour of a clear presentation of the musical ideas, as much in forthright singing by the chorus as in the detail of a well-balanced orchestra.

Noël Goodwin

Opera in the United States Tenors in turmoil

hausted to go on. Richard Cassilly, found in Baltimore, could make it only in time for the second performance. Then Plácido Domingo, just arrived from Europe, agreed to fly from New York to San Francisco, via helicopter and private jet, for a single performance - surely one of the more impressive pieces of

"replacement casting" in opera history. The audience for the event, traditionally the most lavish gala in the city's social calendar, waited patiently as his plane battled against headwinds across the country. Mr Domingo finally boomed out a very genuine "Esultate!" shortly after 10.30pm; an enraptured audience stayed until after 2am.

I saw the third performance, with Mr Cassilly. Although he grew grander and stronger as the evening progressed, he is not a tenor in the top league; in this performance, he was outclassed by the Desdemona of Margaret Price and the Iago (also a replacement) of Silvano Carroli.

Miss Price gave out a seamless, effortless flow of sound, perfectly pitched. Throughout the opera, she remained a regal and pitiable figure, meaning every word, caring for every note. She was the only member of the cast able to soar, and soar beautifully, over the phenomenal orchestral thunders which Marek Janowski built for the Act III finale.

It was Mr Carroli's Iago that held this powerful production together. Even standing still, silently staring, he was a figure of inescapable menace. Never fake-demonic or excessively "evil", he was totally self-possessed and credible.

Six seasons ago San Francisco's *Katya Kabanova* was a

most impressive addition to the company's modern repertoire. Then, a brilliant production trio (Rafael Kubelik conducting, Günther Schneider-Siemssen designing, Günther Rennert directing) was able to wrest a maximum of emotional intensity out of this compact and moving psychodrama, aided by the wholly compelling Katya of Elisabeth Söderström.

The 1977 settings wear well - huge photographic projections of provincial Russian landscapes, out of which grow weathered wooden buildings and boardwalks and Volga reeds. But a new stage director (Gerald Freedman) seems to have moved the action closer to melodrama than neurotic realism. Anja Silja hurls herself into the role of Katya, with frantic, whole-body intensity. The single total triumph was Christoph von Dohnányi's, rescuing his orchestral forces carefully - blasts of brass from the left hit one like divine slaps - and balancing Janáček's eccentric colours and lines.

The best thing about San Francisco's *Ariadne auf Naxos* (another revival from 1977) was, again, what Dohnányi - an invaluable addition to the roster of conductors - did with the orchestra, and on behalf of the composer. As in *Otello*, cancellations and scheduling problems forced double and treble casting. The *Ariadne* I heard (one of three), was London's Rosalind Plowright, making her local debut, sometimes gloriously full and clear of voice, sometimes breathless and strained.

David Littlejohn

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Paris
tells
us
Y

Photographs by Harry Kerr

THIERRY MUGLER (left): the shapeliest silhouette in Paris. His seductively cut swimsuit dress with skin tight skirt and flared hem focusses on the lower body.

CLAUDE MONTANA (below, left): the Y-line from a wide shouldered boxy jacket tapering to the new tube skirt, almost always at calf length.

YOHJI YAMAMOTO (below, left): the concession to the West. High-waisted tubular skirt under long loose duster coat, the only coat shape in Paris.

CASTELBAJAC (bottom): the art of high fashion. Shift dress printed with black and white Charlie Chaplin stills. Surreal effects and trompe l'oeil details were another Paris story.

CHLOE (right): the new proportions of cropped box jacket, a shape borrowed from the Japanese, over hip-length tunic and long slim skirt, flaring out at the knee.

ISSEY MIYAKE (below, right): the Japanese strengths are mixing texture and pattern. Miyake's garments change shape according to how they are worn. The hood was all over Paris.

UNGARO (below): the day dress is the rising star. Softly wrapped and figure-skinning, the dress in a strong abstract print. Primitive African prints are a strong influence for next spring.

CASTELBAJAC (bottom): back-to-front and front-to-back in this witty surreal tuxedo.



Emmanuel Ungaro is the prince of prints and he, too, came up with an African influence - primitive blocks of dark colour such as indigo, rust and mauve on linen or silk. His line seemed clearer on plain fabrics including his simple, slim dresses cut from a wide shoulder, strongest in half-caste black and white.

Sonia Rykiel plays a purist part in French fashions. Her tube skirts are uncompromisingly tight, often worn with square sweaters, stopping short of the waist. But there were plenty of alternatives like three-quarter length tunics and easier skirts. There was colour, too, to brighten her familiar black. The duster coat - the only Paris coat story - looked strong in beige knit worn over slim or gored skirts, always to mid-calf. Bright egg yolk yellow, coral red and cobalt blue appeared on striped cardigan jackets, worn over another cardigan, and the same hot colour appeared on the velvet sports wear. But Sonia Rykiel's surprise was her Japanese-inspired marbled pattern for knits. It made a splendid sleeveless coat, worn round the shoulders over a tube skirt to exaggerate the tapered silhouette.

The French are supposed to be past masters at the art of fashion. The giant marquees erected in shadow of the Louvre to stage the fashion shows were even decorated this season with pennants designed by the young painters of Paris. Culture minister Jack Lang (who appeared at the weekend shows) showed plans for the new fashion museum and research institute within the Louvre complex.

Jean Charles de Castelbajac puts art on the runway, using artist friends to hand-paint shift dresses and working up the motifs of the surrealists. This was fun: his series of blazer and tuxedo jackets had the same labels and buttons on both the back and the front. Castelbajac draws inspiration from Japanese fabric using bits of string and twists of paper in hand-woven linen. I preferred his other surreal stories, such as the jackets with satchel bags, for pockets or sweater dresses with an extra pair of arms to be knotted round shoulders or hips.

Issey Miyake, a Japanese-born designer who has worked in Paris for the last decade, won a standing ovation for his artistry. This collection was beyond fashion, using harmonious arrangements of texture, pattern and colour.

He has the Japanese skill with cloth, wrapping and lapping it across the body so that a

garment literally changes shape on the catwalk as the models reform one shoulder of the sweater or unfold a cape top.

Miyake's show quashed Montana, and pointed up the contrast between the Parisian designers who rely on cut and line and the Japanese who experiment with fabrics to push forward the boundaries of fashion. Miyake also showed why 1,500 journalists fight to get into the Paris shows.

Kenzo Takada - the other Japanese designer who has made his home and his reputation in Paris - brings the collections to a close tomorrow night with a show and a grand party at Maisons-Lafitte.

The French fashion industry should raise a chateau-bottled glass to the Japanese for bringing new life, inspiration and direction to these Paris shows.



From the shoulders of a box-shaped jacket to the hem of a tube thin skirt, Paris spelled out the line for spring. The letter Y is the shape, the lower body the focus of attention and the day dress the rising star.

The French have stolen Japanese style. They have absorbed the asymmetry of the kimono sleeves, and exploited the box jacket and the strong emphasis on texture. But they

have retained their belief in the body and the seductive cut that makes the Paris shows a celebration of female sexuality.

Skirts are longer, mostly mid-calf, but still very tight. A fishtail of fabric at Mugler and sloping panels at Montana now cover up the swaying derrieres. But sarong swathing at hips, bold tribal prints and spicy colours such as hot coral, acid yellow and jungle green beat out a pulsating rhythm.

The fashion groupies who cluster round the show tents and seem to have a hot line to the new season's styles have swapped their Japanese shrouds for the Y-line jersey dress - ultra-wide at the shoulders and narrow below the waist.

This was the lead line at Claude Montana's collection - a series of plain black linen dresses cut in a sharp V tapering down to a tubular mid-calf skirt. The same point - dagger sharp and sexually explicit - was made by Montana's striking scarlet swimsuits that were sliced high at the sides.

Montana has a Bunuel-like obsession with uniforms and religion. His strong collection includes sharp white Indian army jackets, wide at the shoulder, in at the waist and worn with the long, slim skirt. Less demanding chic were his delicious white crunchy cotton knits, cut short and square to the waist and worn over simple white trousers - a fine example of a French designer learning from Japan.

The aggressive seriousness with which French fashion counters the Japanese threat has now been refined. But Karl Lagerfeld at Chloe hit below the belt. He wrapped a tube of fabric from waist to thighs under a short, square jacket and over a tight tube skirt that burns into life below the knees. This worked well when he played with proportions in his crisp coral and white knits, putting a boy's bolero over a hip-length tunic and a slim skirt. But a fluid silk dress in a splashy abstract print sufficed into a jersey tube at the hips looked rather clumsy. And when two giant pairs of embroidered scissors snipped towards the body on a tube dress, the result was most alarming.

The jewelled scissors that dangled from belts were supposed to be a symbol of the art of sewing. They were taken as a sign that Lagerfeld is severing his ties with Chloe and concentrating on Chanel.

In a dazzling Chanel show yesterday morning, Lagerfeld brought us young fresh clothes full of Mademoiselle's taste and his own wit. Blue denim, impeccably cut into classic suits and T-shirt dresses in navy stripes were the oldest concessions to today's world. But Lagerfeld changed, too, the jacket shapes, elongating the line, widening the armholes and working playfully at the familiar silhouette.

Stunning sugared almond tweeds, a simple black jersey dinner dress with bangles embroidered on the sleeves and



an evening dress in hounds-tooth printed sequined chiffon were just some of the invented ideas that received an ovation for the designer who was hiding among the audience.

Thierry Mugler's new dress has corset stitching suggestively picking out the curves, but he has mostly softened up his sexist silhouette. His tube skirt and even wide-shouldered macs flare out in a flirtatious fan of fabric at the knee. He does the soft-wrap dress and wide trousers (another Paris trend) as alternatives. Panels of fabric cover the back of a tight skirt or dress. Mugler also showed the wickedest swimsuits in Paris - cut high at the sides and with trompe l'oeil tattoos printed on flesh coloured fabric at the thighs.

The Japanese have been accused of lacking a sense of humour. But Rei Kawakubo's Comme des Garçons collection was fresh and fun. She played asymmetric games with elastic, using it to draw up one side of a dress, one sleeve or one trouser leg.

Her clothes are still designed against the line of the body, but



they are now simpler and the presentation less threatening. New are her cobweb fine stringy knits, her subtle use of subdued colour (navy with brown and black) and her dresses which range in style from soft smock shapes to T-shirt dresses with asymmetric sleeves. Rei Kawakubo also had the hoods that are shrouding heads in Paris.

Yohji Yamamoto came much nearer to the Parisian silhouette with high-waisted tube skirts and his wrapped dresses. His asymmetries are controlled and beautiful, especially for his favourite big shirts, shorter up front than the back. His sharp geometric stripes and squares were a contrast to his textured Japanese work-wear complete with raffia knap-sacks.

Jean Paul Gaultier also used raffia, but he made it into a multi-coloured bra. Gaultier raided the cabaret, producing the fez designed by directional London hat designer Stephen Jones. Other ideas in a confused show were a blazer jacket with an open-work lace back, a sexy over-sized, safari-style jacket, vivid African colours and an effective moorish mosaic print.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Smaller than life

Inaugurated by the sea air in Blackpool, where he spent last week trying to convince the Tory faithful to spare the GLC, Ken Livingstone returned to weightier matters in the capital yesterday when he received this year's Golden Joker Award from Fleet Street cartoonists.

Inviting perhaps further attention from caricaturists, to whom he provided the greatest inspiration during the past 12 months, Livingstone chose the occasion to disclose that he has acquired an extra stone of weight since entering County Hall.

This was no thanks to the gastronomic delights of the Lancashire resort where he found the food at all the restaurants recommended to him unpalatable and relied for sustenance instead on breakfast at the £6.50 a night hotel where he pitched camp.

Livingstone attributes his extra weight to the cares of office which have forced him to abandon exercise, namely a 20 minute workout based on a Canadian Air Force regime which he used to find kept him in trim.

The GLC leader names his receding hairline, moustache and apparent lack of stature as his principal assets in attracting the attention of cartoonists, complaining only about their treatment of the latter. He has long legs and a short trunk, which, he says, make him look small when he is sitting down.

Square deal?

The Environment Secretary, Patrick Jenkin, may face some rigorous questioning when he enters the elegant, Adam-designed headquarters of the Royal Society of Arts today to promote the Government as a patron of architecture.

He is certain to cite the recent competition for a new public square at the Mound, Edinburgh, of which the Government was a co-sponsor with Lothian Regional Council. But two months have passed in silence since the winning entry was exhibited at the Edinburgh Festival, leading to growing doubts in Scotland about the Government's intentions. A decision on the Mound would indicate the Government's sincerity on architectural competitions; a failure to build would certainly inhibit architects from entering future ones.



BARRY FANTONI

Last stand

Old Etonian Sir Brandon Rhys Williams does not wish to stand again at the direct elections to the European Parliament next June. After 10 years as an MEP representing 356,000 voters in his London, South-east constituency, Williams says he wants more time to concentrate on writing and on the affairs of his Westminster constituency, Kensington and Chelsea.

Writing? "My swan song will be the report I am now preparing for submission to the Parliament in the spring on the need for an integrated community market for capital."

Previous publications include *The New Social Contract*, *More Power to the Shareholder* and *Redistributing Income in a Free Society*.

Capital gain

Europe's biggest-ever worker buy-out continues to cover superlatives. Employees who invested £1 in a share of the National Freight Corporation, which the Government sold 18 months ago for £53m, have seen its value rise to £3.40 already. "You see these bits of paper acquiring extra value but it hasn't made a lot of difference to our lifestyle," said Peter Thompson yesterday at the launch of *The National Freight Buy-out* by Sandy McLachlan, published by Macmillan. "But it does give you a warm feeling when you look five years ahead to retirement." I should think so, too: Thompson, the NFC chairman and mastermind of the takeover, owns 35,000 shares.

Sir Ransolf Flenes's Transglobe Expedition, which lasted three years and accumulated a lot of clobber, is for sale piecemeal at Camden Lock in north London, where for the next four consecutive weekends the public is invited to come and "acquire a memento of the expedition, or indeed invest in some of the unique and highly serviceable kit and equipment." Everything from mosquito nets and snowglobes to Handy Andies is on offer; the object of the exercise is to reimburse 38 members of the expedition for out-of-pocket expenses, which at last estimate totalled £50,000. The expedition also has a Boston whaler for sale, price to be negotiated, which happens to be "moored in the Arctic ice somewhere in the North-West Passage". Buyer collects.

Spending, the nightmare ticket

by Douglas Hague

In 1980 I had a nightmare that built into our system of political economy were the seeds of its own destruction, albeit planted in good faith by benevolent men.

Simple calculation led me to propound what I presumptuously called Hague's Law. If productivity (efficiency) in the public sector rises more slowly than the private then - given the same rates of pay in each - either tax rates must rise continually or the volume of public sector activity must be progressively reduced.

I recognized that economic growth faster than that experienced by the United Kingdom in the 1970s could offset this. So could improvements in public sector productivity which were bigger than those assumed. My argument was one of logic, not of judgment, but its conclusions were no less alarming for that.

Given Britain's economic performance in the 1970s, 2 per cent slower growth in productivity in the public sector would, within a couple of decades, lead to substantial increases in tax rates or to substantial cuts in public expenditure.

Nobody seemed to share my worries, but I was not surprised. There is usually a three-year lag before a wider public echoes such concern. But nothing that has happened since to national economic growth, to public sector productivity, to tax rates or to public expenditure leads me to feel more optimistic.

Indeed, in three directions my fears have increased. First, one way in which we have kept total government expenditure on goods and services down to present levels is that

we have dramatically reduced capital spending on roads, hospitals, schools and so on. That is why Britain looks increasingly down-at-heel. We have been living off the balance sheet, which cannot go on indefinitely. Sooner or later we must shift the balance back towards capital spending. Then the crunch will really come.

Second, in some fields - not least health and defence - high technology equipment is very expensive indeed. Finally, we seem to be moving into a phase where expenditure on services is rising faster than expenditure on goods, and many of those services are produced by the public sector.

Two recent factors have renewed my nightmare - the fact that the Treasury now appears to be equally sleepless, and Sir John Hoskyns's remarkable lecture (which must, incidentally, be read in full). I am particularly haunted by one sentence: "All-embracing welfare provision erodes the very economic processes necessary to support it."

To evaluate this view, I considered the position in France, West Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands. This suggested a consistent relationship, for those countries, between the level of real gross domestic product per head (standard of living) and the percentage of GDP spent by the government on goods and services on current account. As the standard of living rises, the government's share in total activity also rises modestly. The United

Kingdom seems to be the odd man out. Based on our economic performance we spend some 10 to 15 per cent more through government on goods and services than other Western European countries. To that extent we are living above our station.

To give ourselves a fighting chance, we need genuinely open debate. As the new chairman of the Social Science Research Council I look to Britain's experts - most of them, after all, funded in one way or another by public money. I want them to study problems like public expenditure, explain the issues, and make them real for the public.

We also need genuine self-examination by the people. Sir John Hoskyns identified as obstructing the way forward. Although I pointed to public expenditure as a "time bomb" some years ago, I was signally unsuccessful in sparking off public debate. A major reason, I fear, is that those hostile to my views assume that I am simply making an ideological point. This is to misinterpret the role of the social scientist.

Were someone to convince me that my fears were unwarranted, and that expenditure on the welfare state was guaranteed for 20 years I should be happy to move on to other issues. But it does not seem to me that the interests of the public, nor of politics, are well served if we replace analysis by wishful thinking.

Professor Sir Douglas Hague is chairman of the Social Science Research Council, a professor at the Oxford Management Centre and a visiting professor at Manchester Business School.

Falklands: we never meant to stay

Argentina's former foreign minister reveals his country's thoughts at the time of the invasion and its hopes now



Nicanor Costa Mendez: "Britain should make concessions"

Buenos Aires

Visiting Nicanor Costa Mendez, Argentina's foreign minister during the Falklands conflict with Britain last year, has its paradoxes. His study at home in a residential district of Buenos Aires has a certain British flavour to it. The *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Shakespeare, and Locke are visible on the bookshelves. He says that he has always recognized the value of British culture and tradition.

He was, he said, informed of the decision to invade the islands on March 26, 1982. Was it true that the president, General Leopoldo Galtieri, had told him of the plan when offering him the ministry in December 1981? "No. When the president offered me the ministry he told me he wanted me to activate sovereignty negotiations and achieve concrete results, results which had not been obtained in the previous 16 or 17 years. He said nothing of a disembarkation on the islands then."

Costa Mendez argues that the original Argentine conception was a peaceful occupation of the islands, a move to stun Britain into negotiating. "The project was conceived as an occupation to negotiate, including provision for the withdrawal of our troops. In no way did we plan to go to the Malvinas and stay there. That came as a result of a decision by the military junta."

But how did the game-plan change? "As a result of a long process which cannot be condensed into a single answer," Costa Mendez replies. "It was caused by Britain's intransigent response and the fact that the British Government left us no room to manoeuvre." With the benefit of hindsight, would the foreign minister have acted differently? "Answering that question is difficult, because it is always difficult to reconstruct events which have occurred in the past. If I were back in April 2 or 3, I think we should have made more immediate use of Resolution 502, inviting the Security Council of the United Nations to intervene directly to implement it."

Although passed as a result of a British initiative, Costa Mendez insists it was satisfactory from Argentina's point of view. "The resolution did not condemn Argentina as an aggressor country, neither directly nor indirectly, explicitly or implicitly. All it said was that the peace had been broken, without saying who was responsible. It called for a cessation of hostilities, which was acceptable to Argentina. It called for the withdrawal of troops, which, if they were replaced by a United Nations force, was acceptable to us. And it called for serious negotiations on sovereignty, which satisfied our basic objectives."

Could it have been that Argentina did not want to appear to be taking a step backwards in the eyes of domestic public opinion? "It is a

question you should direct to the three commanders-in-chief, or to the president at that time. But no, in reality we always acted on the basis of 502. Argentina's proposals on April 19 were based on 502. The Haig and Belandier proposals also mentioned 502."

Costa Mendez believes that peace was closest when the Peruvian president, Fernando Belaunde Terry, intervened. General Galtieri had agreed in principle to the Peruvian peace plan, subject to the ratification of the rest of the junta, which was due to meet on the afternoon of May 2. But as the meeting took place Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya, the navy commander, received news of the sinking of the *Belgrano*, and the possibility of agreement was killed.

Why did Britain react in a much stronger fashion to the Argentine invasion than Costa Mendez had imagined? "Because of the internal political situation under Mrs Thatcher's government. There was a very difficult economic situation, an austerity programme and extremely high unemployment. In the new situation, she saw the possibility of reviving the powers of empire and giving the Conservative Party a new ideological make-up and profile. The powerful lobbies of the Falkland Islands Company, the Royal Navy, and the British Antarctic Survey also played a role."

But surely internal reasons played a part in Argentina's original decision? "The situations are completely different. For us affirming, sustaining and recovering our sovereignty over the Malvinas was always our first priority. Lord Carrington told my predecessor, Oscar Camillino, in the United Nations that for British foreign policy, the islands question was priority number 242."

Looking to the future, Costa Mendez is confident that his country's case will progress. The

advent of democracy in Argentina is one of the factors he mentions. "Argentina has been attacked a lot in Europe, and it has a very bad image as a result of being governed by a military junta and as a result of the problem of the disappeared ones."

"Well, you can see that the elections here are going to be completely clean and correct. Many of the countries who attack Argentina will be left without that type of argument against us. Secondly, I believe that there is no British national interest in the islands capable of justifying the expenditure now being made on them. Nato has no strategic interest in the islands and has no money to take up an interest in this area, which does not have the strategic importance of, say, the missile problem."

He added: "The islands are distant from any communications route apart from those which interest Argentina, Brazil and eventually the United States; there are no proved oil reserves capable of justifying the investment; there are no fishing resources capable of justifying the investment; and finally, as I understand it, there is no British interest in stunting their armed forces in places which are distant from the likely points of confrontation or friction in today's world."

He also holds that Argentina should not sign a formal cessation of hostilities with Britain until London is prepared to make some concessions of its own "such as sitting down around the negotiating table with us."

What does Costa Mendez now think of the British Prime Minister? "I can tell you that, apart from a reflex reaction which I cannot hide which is very negative - the feeling of irritation at the way she conducted the war - I cannot deny that she conducted it in a manner favourable to her political interest. She discovered, I don't know if she had discovered it before or if it came only as a result of the war, the possibility of a modernization of Conservative ideology."

"Mrs Thatcher, who is a middle class woman, discovered the possibility of reinserting into Conservative Party ideology a series of elements which are similar to those brought by Disraeli. In other words non-economic elements, which are unrelated to concrete material values but have to do with the idea of a great United Kingdom, a Britannia ruling the waves, something which is close to a nostalgic sentiment which, I suppose, all Britons carry inside them. So she was able to revitalize a series of non-economic values, a series of ideas."

And does Costa Mendez share those ideas? "I share the need to affirm spiritual values, national dignity, and the dignity of man - even though a competitor of yours, Samuel Johnson, said that patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

Andrew Thompson

Trying to rewrite the 'Star Wars' scenario

ingenuity. The cannonball, which has an electronic locking device, is fixed to the end of a SRAM missile launcher and is carried aloft to around 80,000ft by a F15 aircraft. The missile, returnable F15 is a relatively cheap, flexible way to launch a weapon, while the non-explosive cannonball manages to sidestep existing international legislation.

The Americans have pointed out that compliance with the Soviet draft treaty would be hard to verify - which is always a safe and respectable reason for rejection. They also fall back on the old argument that it is difficult to define a weapon anyway. But their main cause for alarm over the Soviet proposal is that the Soviet Union already has its ground-tested ASAT system, however inferior this may be to the American counterpart.

Their own cannonball solution will not have completed its tests until 1985 and will not be ready for deployment until some time after that. That is precisely why the Soviets want a treaty now and why the Americans don't.

But will that other UN members see it quite that way? A number of bilateral and multilateral agreements have been signed since the first

Sputnik a quarter of a century ago pointed to the military possibilities in outer space. But the position remains unsatisfactory.

The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 forbids the stationing of weapons on the moon or any other "celestial body" and the placing in earth orbit of weapons of mass destruction. The ABM Treaty of 1972 obliged the superpowers not to base ABM systems in space and, under a tangential arrangement, to consult over the use of any unconventional ABM systems.

Other attempts to improve the situation have so far ended in failure. The 1978 Soviet-American talks over ASAT systems never got far and finally collapsed after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Initiatives to promote a working group under the Committee on Disarmament at Geneva have been spurned by East-West disagreement over the group's brief.

Despite the burgeoning satellites, space is still relatively free of military presence and there is a feeling of urgency about the need to keep it that way by effective legislation. One thesis is that while it may already be too late to get rid of

low-altitude space systems, a limit should quickly be slapped on them and attention focused on the cosmos beyond.

But will Washington see it that way? In the United States elsewhere there is an arms control lobby which can foresee another disastrous arms race in space with the superpowers spending millions on matching and outmatching each other's systems, fearful of being overtaken. Even the Joint Chiefs of Staff are said to be against *Star Wars* approach if only because they fear the diversion of funds from their own more conventional forces.

There is, however, a powerful body of opinion in presidential and military-industrial circles which believes the Americans can win the space race. Although reports of Soviet research into laser and particle-beam space weapons led to alarm and despondency in the US in the late '70s, the hawks now believe that America has left the Soviets standing.

It is thought to be a great deal of vested interest in the argument, as the arms industry, order books flagging for more conventional equipment, explore potential new markets.

Against this background the Soviet draft treaty at the UN, despite the imperfect thoughts which lie behind it, is unlikely to go entirely unsupported.

Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Roger Scruton

Abolish council elections, too

The Conservative Party's White Paper on local government has aroused considerable opposition. Since most of it comes from officials and employees in local government, the paper is probably a step in the desired direction. For it is party policy to curtail local government, and therefore to arouse opposition from those engaged in extending it. I doubt that the Conservatives have thought of a more popular policy since the Factory Acts. The only problem is that, now as then, the proposals do not go far enough.

The White Paper speaks of transitional periods and transitional costs, of "functions transferred to the lower tier", of "joint boards" to be set up to administer what was previously the business of the metropolitan county councils. To transfer functions is to preserve them; what is required, however, is that the apparatus which created these functions be destroyed, and the functions themselves with it.

Can this be done? That it must be done is evident to any observer of human nature. The ordinary middle-class Londoner, who bears the principal burden of the rates, is at the limit of his patience. Unlike so many whom he is compelled to support, he has chosen to take responsibility for himself and his family. He is therefore a target for all arbitrary taxation. The politicized playboys of the GLC, like the assiduous sycophants of Nalco, regard him as fair game. And he feels their inroads into his hard-earned profits as a deep injustice. Of course, he welcomes the services of the police, the dustmen and the street-cleaners. But to the extent that he does so, he believes that they should be provided either privately (as may be advisable in the case of refuse collection), or else nationally, as is appropriate in the case of the police. The thought that they are controlled by the very same Mafia to whom he pays his rates fills him with outrage.

For consider how the remaining 80 per cent of his rate bill is spent: on the ILEA - to whose schools he would never dream of sending his children if he could help it; on the social services - which, far from confining themselves to "natural measures" of charitable relief, are dedicated to the task of creating a series of unwelcome dependants; on the local planning department - with its tyrannical power both to compel work and to prevent it, and with its purely arbitrary relation to any moral or aesthetic standard comprehensible to the ordinary citizen.

All this appears to our ratepayer as a forced redistribution of money that is rightly his. His own encounters with town hall bureaucracy will have convinced him, moreover, that he is no more than the despised victim of the tyrants whose hydropneumatics he provides. "When, year after year, the rates rise at twice the level of inflation, to the point where he is compelled to part with more than a month's salary in every year or else face imprisonment,

ment, his anger becomes irresistible. Do not ask whether he is justified; just look at the facts. Unless central government takes radical action, our ratepayer will do what the middle classes do only reluctantly, but with devastating effectiveness: he will organize himself to defy the law. And he will succeed. The result will be a catastrophe for local government, which will be immediately bankrupted, and which will never reemerge from the ensuing chaos in its original form. In order to protect local government, therefore, the national government must at once abolish every part of it that is not absolutely necessary. Sections of local government must be simply eliminated - including most social services, planning, advisory, cultural and paramedical departments. While this happens Nalco will of course go on strike. This is in itself a good thing, provided that the strike can be made permanent. In order to provide for that possibility, it will be necessary to prepare other arrangements for the control of sanitation and the police, in the hope that employees will eventually emerge who are willing to work in the revised and diminished town halls of the future.

Meanwhile, however, the single greatest cause of the disaster of local government must be removed. I mean the elected councils. Local elections in the United Kingdom suffer from two defects which make the councils morally incompetent in local matters. First, by electing themselves to a vote, the councils gain legitimacy for edicts which are tantamount to legislation. Thus, despite their universal incompetence in matters of law, government and administration, the councils issue proclamations which have the force of law. Second, they become the practice ground for aspiring politicians, who stand in the name of the major national parties, and who become subject to the discipline of an informal whip, enacting at the local level fantasies of reform and revolution which they are powerless to impose on the nation as a whole.

If local elections are to be preserved, then it is at least clear that no national party should be allowed to participate in them, and that candidates who run for them should be subsequently debarred from Parliament. Far better, however, to abolish elections altogether, and to return to local government on the medieval model - by the sovereign's command. If attendance at council meetings were a duty, like jury-service, imposed upon citizens of sufficient public standing for a limited period and with no prospect of reward, then the result would be precisely what the Conservative Party is seeking. Local government would begin to dwindle at once, and the quantity that would eventually remain would be just sufficient to ensure that the local community, upon which the officers depend for their public standing, flourishes according to its local condition.

Peter Emery

The acceptable face of the 'Homelands'

Today anything that might be considered as praise of the South African Government is almost out of hand by the political left and many liberal and ordinary minded people. The theme runs that because apartheid is so wrong, anything that arises from it could ever be considered reasonable or acceptable. That is why the case for the Republic of Bophuthatswana is so seldom put forward.

Bophuthatswana, under the leadership of Lucas Mangope, opened in 1977 for independence and separate development from South Africa. Under a constitution which includes a bill of rights - some say stronger than the American Bill of Rights - a Democratic National Assembly of 105 MPs was established; 75 elected by direct popular vote, 24 from members of regional authorities and nine presidential nominees. The president is elected by an electoral college composed of the national assembly. Surely, a democratic structure which a number of African nations would like to emulate.

The constitution bans apartheid. There are none of the dreaded "pass laws", and many inherited South African statutes are being changed to rid Bophuthatswana of any racialist inclination. Legislation, Bophuthatswana is the only African state to have appointed its own ombudsman, and has no political detainees.

Bophuthatswana should be considered or treated differently from other "Homelands" because it is financially and agriculturally independent of South Africa, something which is not true of Transkei, Ciskei or Venda. Today 94 per cent of the Bophuthatswana Government's income is self-generated, with the largest slice coming from mining and minerals supplying 60 per cent of the world's platinum. Agriculturally, Bophuthatswana, although at present in the midst of a terrible drought, has considerable ranching and cattle production and for the last two years has been a maize exporter.

Since independence, vast steps have been taken to improve education and health. There are over 110 new schools, with the number of teachers increased by 2,822 or 37 per cent. The president has started technical education in subjects forbidden in South Africa to blacks - telephone engineering, motor mechanics, electrical mechanics, and building or general artisan trades. Recruitment of teachers has been spread to Britain, Israel, Switzerland, Canada and Ghana.

A new university for blacks established in Mmabatho has been

inundated with applications from all over South Africa. Thirty-five doctors have recently been recruited in Britain to raise the standards of the country's mainly free health, hospital and clinic service. All of the leading South African police have returned to South Africa, and this year an entirely new Bophuthatswana Police College "passed out" its first 50 graduates. These steps are proof of a black people desperately trying to prove their independence, determined to run their own lives with their own government.

There are problems. At independence South Africa would not grant Bophuthatswana a consolidated land mass. Instead it is made up of seven islands of land. South Africa's promise of "land consolidation" is only slowly coming about.

Two referenda have been held among the white South Africans living in Mafeking, a town in Thaba Ntshi. Eighty-two per cent in one and 78 per cent in the other voted to leave South Africa and join Bophuthatswana. Since 1977 over 300,000 hectares of land have been transferred from South Africa to Bophuthatswana, and later this year two of the six northern parcels of land will be joined together.

Of course the Homelands policy must be condemned absolutely for giving the South African Government the "right" to uproot and move any black person, living in South Africa back to his or her "Homeland". But only 200,000 Tswana people are so affected, in contrast to the almost 2,000,000 Bophuthatswana people who can live in freedom, not under the heel of the South African police.

A considerable labour force is recruited by South Africa from Bophuthatswana. But a vast amount of cheap labour is also recruited from Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Malawi and even Mozambique. At least in Bophuthatswana's case, it is estimated that of the 1,200,000 people who work in South Africa at least 40 per cent commute there every day, and probably 75 per cent of the rest have a home base in Bophuthatswana which is not the case for most of the other African countries who supply labour.

President Mangope, violently opposed to apartheid, is struggling for the independence for his people. Their only alternative is to give up their self-government and their freedom, and go back to South Africa and its domination of the blacks. Nor surprisingly this is entirely unacceptable.

Sir Peter Emery is Conservative MP for Haniton.



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TASKS FOR MR TEBBIT

What future role should the Department of Trade and Industry have in the national economy? If some of Mrs Thatcher's more ambitious statements are to be taken at face value, the aim is to make it much smaller than today. Mr Tebbit's new task is, at least in principle, to withdraw government from many activities in which it should never have become involved.

Practice may prove more difficult. In its first term the Government was quite successful in reducing subsidies to British Steel, BL and Rolls-Royce, but this was offset by much increased support to the coal industry. The framework of industrial policy changed relatively little, while several new excuses for the spending of public money — such as high technology and training schemes — emerged. Perhaps most disappointing of all for a government ostensibly committed to free trade, no initiatives were taken to open the domestic market to new import competition. International treaty obligations were honoured, or at least not fudged too blatantly, but that was all.

In view of the continuing debate on the size of the public sector, Mr Tebbit's approach will be watched particularly closely for its expenditure implications. Despite his reputation as the drier of the dry in Cabinet, spending at the Department of Employment rose quite sharply while he was Secretary of State. At first sight he has only a limited budget to cut in his new capacity. In its 1983 Expenditure White Paper the Government envisaged spending at the Department of Industry of £1,148m and at the Department of Trade of £288m. In comparison with a planned figure of £120,000m for all public expenditure, these are modest sums.

In fact, there is considerable scope for curbing spending — and also for bringing reality closer to line with rhetoric than in the Government's first term. Dissatisfaction with both the form and the effectiveness of industrial subsidies has increased in the last few years. Two particularly persuasive

criticisms have been directed against official policy.

The first is that state aid to industry has been biased towards investment, instead of being neutral in its impact on the demand for capital and labour. The biggest single item in the Department of Industry's budget is money for regional development grants. They are specifically aimed at encouraging manufacturing investment in the Development Areas. Too often the result has been the construction of highly capital-intensive chemical plants or oil refineries which employ very few people. Little is done to ease the regional employment problem for which the grants were intended to be a solution.

The second is that so many schemes, programmes and projects have been concocted that much of what government does in one branch of policy is cancelled by what it does in another. Regional development grants illustrate the difficulty since they must be covered by taxation, some of which — such as the national insurance surcharge — falls on industry and deters employment. Their net effect in promoting employment in the Development Areas may be quite small. But there are other, more disturbing examples.

Over the years several agencies have been set up to influence the location of investment. Apart from the DTI itself, assistance is given by local authorities, the Scottish Development Agency (and its rivals in Wales and Northern Ireland), the New Town Development Corporation, the English Industrial Estates Corporation and a bevy of other bodies. These organizations frequently compete among themselves to see which can give the biggest hand-out to a potential investor. From the national point of view, this is a totally futile exercise which does nothing except raise taxes and increase the demand for bureaucrats. It deserves to be emphasized again that some of these taxes are paid by industrial companies.

Mr Tebbit can make a useful contribution to the economy's

efficiency if he abolishes at least some of these organizations and so eliminates the duplication of function which undoubtedly exists at present. Cooperation with other departments will be necessary since they also are responsible for a certain amount of so-called "industrial promotion". The Department of the Environment finances new towns development and the inner city programme, while the Departments of Trade and Energy are responsible for a miscellany of hand-outs to supposedly worthy causes.

Arguably, the job of rationalizing industrial policy is long-term in nature, although Mr Tebbit will make most progress if he moves at an early stage in the Government's life. Of more immediate concern are the privatization of British Telecom and the request for development funds from British Aerospace. Both issues are complex, but the Government must hold to its principles or lose credibility. In particular, British Aerospace must be asked why it is unable to obtain private sector finance for its share in Airbus Industrie's development expenses.

Mr Tebbit has much to do if industrial policy is to conform more closely to the Government's stated objectives in its second term than in its first. Routine abuse about "monetarist dogma", "Thatcherite ideology" and the like is inevitable, but most of Mr Tebbit's agenda is common sense and should be undertaken on the grounds of simplicity and economy — by any government. In trade policy there is scope for even more improvement than in industrial policy. It would be difficult to believe, from Britain's timid behaviour at international trade gatherings in the last four years, that its Government understood the meaning of free trade, let alone supported the principle. Mr Tebbit could make his most distinctive contribution if he showed that he wants less, and not more, protection for internationally uncompetitive companies and industries.

RETHINK FOR MR MACHEL

South Africa is incomparably the most dominant military and industrial power south of the Sahara, yet shares that endemic sense of insecurity which seems to afflict all her black neighbours. Their insecurity is the product of economic mismanagement, a long overdue inability to discard the rhetoric and phobias of anti-colonialism, persistently uneasy political systems which are either military dictatorships or else one party states, and a fear of South Africa's constant attempts to destabilize them even further.

South Africa, on the other hand, lives just as uneasily with its power as they do with their lack of it. Yesterday's South African raid into the Mozambique capital of Maputo perfectly illustrates that paradox. Mozambique is no threat to South Africa. If South African society was one tenth as self-confident as its troops are, the South African exiles in Maputo would live in peace since their contribution to any potential destabilization within South Africa would not be held to justify the sort of military action which occurred yesterday.

South African strategy has been to intimidate her neighbours in Southern Africa. Ostensibly the reason for this intimidation is the presence in those neighbouring countries of representatives of the underground African National Congress, which is banned in South Africa. There is a more subtle strategic purpose, however. The South Africans provide military intimidation with one hand and economic support with the other. Although the drought this year has prevented South Africa exporting food to most of her black neighbours for the first time for many years, the normal pattern of Southern Africa's food economics shows that the black states live off South African munificence, even while they exorcise South African policies. The policy of military intimidation and economic exploitation has worked in the short term since the threat to the South African government, if and when it comes, will certainly not come in the form of mass

armies marching southwards full of Zimbabwe, Mozambique or Zambia contingents. Successful militarily it may have been; politically it has failed.

The effect of this intimidation has been to create a constellation of cowed but resentful states. They will give all moral support they can to the black revolutionary movement in Southern Africa but they will recognize that in the end the black movement will only prevail on the ground in South Africa itself, regardless of what degree of support they could provide from outside. In that sense, therefore, the presence of the ANC leadership outside South Africa adds little to the black potential for achieving change within the country. The South Africans know this. Their hit-and-run raids should be seen more as a continuing exercise in the intimidation of their neighbours than as any serious tactical operation to destroy the ANC.

President Machel of Mozambique is due in London tomorrow. He is a convert of a sort, having seen his country cowed both by the departure of Portuguese whites after independence and by the Marxist economic policies which he pursued on acquiring power. Economically and militarily his country is a shambles. As usual the Soviet support he has received has done nothing for his economy and has been concentrated on the provision of military assistance.

Judged by results, even that has failed miserably. The anti-Frelimo guerrilla movement has gradually advanced southwards so that now it even controls some elements of Maputo province itself. North of the Zambezi, Frelimo forces are confined to garrison duties, rather like the Soviet army in Afghanistan. South of the Zambezi the Frelimo effort is concentrating on the security of a narrow strip of land which runs along the rail and pipeline link from Beira to Zimbabwe. Some 5,000 Zimbabwe troops assist in this operation but neither country has been able to prevent frequent acts of sabotage.

Economically the situation is

just as dismal. The Portuguese landowners and skilled technicians enabled Mozambique to export a wide variety of crops. The baleful influence of Marxist economics has virtually eliminated Mozambique's exports, with the exception of tea and those products which go straight to Soviet sources to pay for the military assistance. Thus Mozambique has more or less had to abandon imports and suffers a foreign debt of several hundred million dollars into the bargain.

Mr Machel recognizes the mistakes that have been made and, under the cover of the usual rhetoric about African socialism, is gradually retreating from that model. At Frelimo's fourth congress in Maputo this April, the delegates agreed to a new programme of food rationing (in a country originally endowed with the richest of soils) abandoned collectivization and announced a decision to reduce the population of Maputo by nearly two thirds — not that the housing to resettle them, or the transport to transfer them would have been available.

Mr Machel is visiting France and Portugal as well as Britain and he hopes for some help out of his difficulties. He should certainly be encouraged to continue the conversion; he did after all play a significant part in persuading Mr Mugabe to embrace the Lancaster House agreement and to adopt a policy of reconciliation with the whites which was quite an achievement after the bitterness of Rhodesia's civil war.

He deserves cautious encouragement, but Western assistance must be modest so long as Mozambique suffers the blight of a Soviet-inspired military and economic system. It has taken Mr Machel eight years to recognize the failure of policies which have been evidently inadequate to any perceptive visitor to Maputo. Moreover, even allowing for the insurrection which threatens his regime, there are still enough incidents of arbitrary detention to serve as reminders that, for all its fine words, Frelimo is a dictatorship.

Base metal

From Lord Walsingham

Sir, Now that the cuckoo is no longer heard and the Conservatives safely returned to power I seek your aid in investigating a revolution in the bureaucracy.

I refer to the overdue reform of the mischievous stapling practice almost universally indulged by business, great and small, so that I

get chiches of paper through the post with — neatly placed in the corner — a metal obstacle to punching for filing. Stationery firms even sell a pair of claws with thumb grips for undoing the mischief.

Think, Sir, what would be the effects, on a national scale, if the idea were to take root and gain ground that the staple should be put in an inch from the top of the page. Productivity would soar, frayed tempers would be recomposed, and

a powerful blow would be struck for the view that mankind, if not perfectible is at least tractable in the long run — a view which, as we approach 1984, is otherwise without much obvious warrant.

Yours truly,
WALSINGHAM,
Merton Estate Office, Merton,
Near Watton,
Thetford,
Norfolk.
October 12.

Overlooking needs of inner cities

From Mr Illyd Harrington

Sir, I know that many of us with some length of service in local government will welcome the tone and content of your leading article, "No, minister" (October 8).

It seems to me that there are proposals in the White Paper which are unreal and particularly insensitive to the needs of inner cities. How on earth can overburdened ratepayers and under-capitalized boroughs take on the enormity of capital debt? At the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' annual meeting Patrick Jenkin was less than his usual frank self on the question of the heavy liability — as well as the benefits — which the City bears for London's £2,500bn historical capital debt, and the ongoing cost of services.

Statements in the White Paper that London equalization will be increased to ensure that the Cities of London and Westminster still contribute are far too loose. Decisions on that equalization will be made annually at the favour of Government and, no doubt, only made to those authorities fully complying with central Government policy.

How, in London, is a desperately needed housing strategy to be funded and organized? There are no indications of alternative sources of local government finance. I wonder at the nerve of the White Paper authors, some of whom I have watched from my seat on the Government's local government finance consultative committee for over a decade. My conclusion is that the incredible and erratic manipulation of the rate support grant, its incomprehensible formula and a wilful ignoring of social need and urban renewal over a long period will be compounded by the grotesque and inept Stalinist proposals of the White Paper.

The proposals eat at the roots of strong local government and are contemptuous of the majority of local authorities which are subject to stringent financial discipline. They can only increase costs, probably reduce efficiency and give credibility to the odious dictum "the man in Whitehall knows best".

Yours sincerely,
ILLYD HARRINGTON,
Deputy Leader,
Greater London Council,
Merton Lodge,
The County Hall, SE1,
October 10.

Kenyan prisoner

From Ms M. Martin-Jones and others

Sir, There is increasing concern here in Britain and elsewhere about the case of Al Amin Mazrui, a young Kenyan linguist and playwright who was arrested by the Kenyan authorities on June 7, 1982. He is one of several academics who were detained prior to the closure of the university last year. They are still being held without charge or trial and neither friends nor family have been able to see them for over a year.

Al Amin Mazrui was lecturer in linguistics at Kenyatta University College up to the time of his arrest in 1982. He is also well known as a creator of a play in Swahili entitled *A Cry for Justice* about the struggle for independence in Kenya. Excerpts from his play were translated in the August issue of *Index on Censorship* 1983.

Mazrui is considered to be a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International. What makes his continued detention particularly distressing is the fact that he suffers from severe asthma: a condition that can only be aggravated by the rigours of detention.

Several appeals have been sent to the Kenyan authorities from linguists in Britain, the USA, Africa and elsewhere. They have gone unheeded. The York Creole Conference is an international gathering of linguists. As participants in this conference we call for the immediate release of Al Amin Mazrui. His continued detention cannot be justified under international law.

According to article 9 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention, or exile." Al Amin Mazrui's state of health makes his case particularly urgent: we fear that his life may be in danger.

As from: University of Lancaster, Department of Linguistics and Modern English Language, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YW.
September 26.

Sail training ships

From Mr C. R. Rudd

Sir, Mr Strahan Soames, in his letter of October 8, glories in the "theatre" of the America's Cup and the fast-forward pleasures of dinghy racing. Admirable! But what of those "dull" sail training ships? he refers to, where, he must imagine, "character" is rammed down unwilling gullets with the blunt end of a belaying pin?

I throw out a challenge to your correspondent: let him join us as part of the crew of the good ship *Soren Larsen* next year and learn first-hand what "sail ship" life is all about. We guarantee a change of heart in this land-hugging dinghy enthusiast and an enlarging of his horizons — especially if he will volunteer to go aloft!

American benefit from 'Soviet threat'

From Mr Michael Cox

Sir, Enoch Powell's scepticism (report, October 8) about the Soviet threat is entirely justified. Your editorial attack on him simply missed the obvious point he was making.

Why, he was asking, does the United States cling tenaciously to a peculiarly domestic view of Soviet foreign policy when the facts do not support it? That is the problem. Nobody would deny the clash of interests which exists between America and Russia. Nor could one deny that in its own hamfisted and inefficient way the Soviet Union has tried to challenge Western interests.

This, however, does not make the USSR expansionary as such, and, judging by the outcome, not much of a threat either. A "superpower" which cannot even control its own sphere of interest, and has nothing of great worth which anybody wants to buy, can hardly be considered a menace. Yet America has persisted in portraying the USSR in precisely such a way. The question is why?

The simple answer is that it has served American purposes. In historical terms the United States has furthered its own global interests by portraying the USSR as a major threat. This presentation of reality has been particularly functional for America since 1947. It has mobilized support and neutralized opposition at home to American policies abroad, destroyed domestic isolationism and, of course, reinforced the dependency of the non-capitalist world upon American power.

In his memoirs Acheson admitted the threat as a polemical device. Dulles even believed that western civilization required an external threat in order to prevent internal

Civil Service morale

From the General Secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants

Sir, Your leader (October 10), "The banners of bureaucracy" concludes that the most important prerequisite for achieving the efficient and effective Civil Service we would all wish to see is "the motivation of officials at every level, whether by a desire for public approval, a wish to do a good job, a sense of public duty or incentives in the form of improved pay and promotion".

The plain fact, however, is that on each of these points the present Administration has failed. The Government's open antagonism to public sector employment has been the prime contributor to the hostility now attaching to employment in the Civil Service. In addition to this, lowering of motivation and morale, recent reports have shown the growing reluctance of the more able to join the Civil Service.

The unilateral breach of the Civil Service pay agreement in 1981 and subsequent pay settlements well below those in comparable employment have destroyed pay as a motivator. The imposition of an arbitrary manpower target for April, 1984, has meant a collapse of promotion opportunities as well as untold damage to services. The threatened imposition of another 30,000 staff cuts by 1988 — "crude external compulsion", according to your leader — would

decay. Kennan, the so-called author of the cold war, spent most of it contesting the new orthodoxy about the Soviet threat.

The fact remains that Western intelligence understood only too well the limits of Soviet power and influence in the cold war. The West thus conducted the cold war in the sure knowledge that Russia was weak, uncompetitive economically as well as politically, and already overextended in eastern Europe. If Russia had moved west — a possibility which was ruled out — it would undoubtedly have set off a series of collisions within the Soviet block which could only have led to its disintegration.

Thus, far from threatening the West the USSR has actually helped it. America in particular has much to thank Russia for. Soviet presence in eastern and central Europe, moreover, has kept Germany weak and divided. Soviet power disappeared Germany would be reunited and America would then face a genuine threat in Europe.

Finally, who can deny the fact that "socialism" in the USSR has been the best case against it elsewhere. The Soviet economy is and remains the most persuasive argument in favour of the market since Adam Smith wrote *The Wealth of Nations*.

As Brzezinski pointed out in 1970, Stalinism has been, and I use his words, "a blessing in disguise". Perhaps Powell understands the point even if *The Times* does not.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL COX,
The Queen's University of Belfast,
Belfast,
Northern Ireland,
October 10.

further compound the promotion crisis, where young staff of perhaps 30 years of age see their careers virtually at an end.

The consolidation of Rayner in the financial management initiative, described in the White Paper published a fortnight ago, will prove no panacea. Devolution of responsibility for cost-cutting to middle management and to local office level will mean increasingly uneven and inequitable levels of public service across the country.

MPs and select committees will find it even harder to discover how well Government policies are being implemented at the sharp end of the Civil Service, as departments increasingly lose control over the detailed implementation of cost-cutting measures.

It is essential to cut through the Government's rhetoric about the achievement of a more modern, better managed, more efficient Civil Service. The hard fact is that staff cuts have led to a collapsing benefits service, increased tax and VAT fraud and evasion, reduced customs control and massive drug smuggling.

For the slimline Civil Service that remains, depressed pay, promotion blockages and public vilification have reduced morale and motivation to the lowest level this century. Yours sincerely,
GERRY GILLMAN,
General Secretary,
Society of Civil and Public Servants,
124/130 Southwark Street, SE1,
October 11.

Polytechnic courses

From Dr Ted Hope

Sir, As retiring chairman of the largest university validating body in the country (we have about 4,700 colleges and students reading for Leeds degrees and other awards), may I ask a question about David Walker's article last Wednesday (October 5) entitled "Polytechnic courses attacked"? It is this: What would have been the effect if the poly in question had been validated by a university rather than the Council for National Academic Awards?

University moderators and subject panels know personally the institutions they validate. They assess continuously and can react quickly both to shortcomings and new aspirations. Universities are in business to create and impose academic standards; they do so rigorously, by direct comparison — and in any case they have no desire to sell their own courses short by giving their cherished degrees for inferior work.

A "mixed economy" in validation has its advantages, as elsewhere. Most of all, it offers a channel for co-operation across "binary" and other lines which, in the opinion of many

(including the late Lord Boyle), ought perhaps never to have been drawn. Polytechnics and advisory bodies please note.

Yours etc,
TED HOPE,
Department of French,
University of Leeds,
Leeds,
October 8.

Students' future

From Professor F. G. T. Holliday

Sir, Mr Rhodes-James appears (October 11) to misunderstand one of the purposes of research work in universities. Without it we would teach only facts and understandings gained by others doing research.

Of course much teaching is based on second-hand information, but no university worthy of the name would be content if that was all that its staff could teach, nor should its students and their parents.

Yours faithfully,
F. G. T. HOLLIDAY,
Vice-Chancellor and Warden,
University of Durham,
Old Shore Hall,
Durham,
October 11.

Catholic doctrine

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Catholic social doctrine, set out in the encyclicals of successive popes, and the deprecation by the present one of political activity by priests, has been ignored by Roger Scruton's assailants.

Our Lord's indifference to politics made him such a disappointment. Neither he nor his disciples seem to have concerned themselves with Rome's "Vietnam" on the Parthian frontier or its "colonialist"

oppression of a socially unjust Palestine.

His kingdom, revolution, liberation were not of this world — which did not mean that Caesars, centuries, laymen had not their civic duty to do. Christianity is both "vertical" and "horizontal": the Church of the Incarnate has a foot in both worlds and a moral law above every ideology.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,
JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON,
House of Commons.

chartered vessel, the brigantine *Soren Larsen* of *Onedin Line* fame, was awarded the 1983 Tall Ships Race's most coveted trophy, the Cutty Sark Bell, operates with crews of all ages, 50 per cent of whom on each voyage are physically handicapped. Imagine what "sail ship" life means to our crews.

The day the sentiments expressed in John Macfield's "Sea Fever" will no longer stir the hearts of sailors will be the day when blood ceases to be saline.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER RUDD,
Founder and Secretary,
Jubilee Sailing Trust,
Cherry Cottage,
Queens Road,
Crowborough,
East Sussex,
October 16.

Value of village post offices

From Dr H. R. Vickers

Sir, I have just received a circular letter from the DHSS which has been sent, presumably at great cost, to all widows and pensioners inviting them to have their pensions paid directly into a bank account.

Most widows, pensioners and those receiving family allowances living in villages find it very convenient to draw their entitlement weekly at the village post office. These sub-post offices are often the only remaining village shop and it is the post office component which enables them to survive in the competitive world of the supermarket.

The income they receive from the post office is determined by the numbers of items of service and if these are materially reduced by them not paying pensions, etc, many will be forced to close. Pensioners and young mothers without cars or adequate public transport living in villages will then be in great difficulty.

One argument used in favour of the new system is that the post office would not need to have such a large amount of cash readily available, but this is fallacious since ready money is required for the Savings Bank transactions, which presumably will continue.

One feels that this idea has been introduced by a team of active car-window civil servants living and working near central banks without any thought of the difficulties they are imposing on the young mothers and aged living in villages. The Government should remember that many of their supporters at election time live in the shires.

Yours faithfully,
H. R. VICKERS,
The Old Smithy,
Little Milton,
Oxford,
October 13.

One nation

From Sir John Rodgers

Sir, May I, as a founder member of the One Nation Group and its first president, heartily support the plea of Mr Peter Walker and others that the Government should take steps to ensure that we do not slip back into the division of our society into two nations — the haves and the have nots?

Now is the time for the Tories to show that they are striving to introduce measures which demonstrate our understanding and compassion and our determination to take active steps to ensure that our society is integrated into one nation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RODGERS,
12 Berkeley House,
Hay Hill, W1.

Miss Keays's car

From the Editor of the Daily Mirror

Sir, I know it has been some years since Bernard Levin left Grubb Street and took up his present residence at Pool Corner, but surely some of his old craft has been retained.

Since the Parkinson story broke, the *Daily Mirror* has been accused of suppression by *The Guardian* and *The Sunday Times* and of harassment by *The Observer*. Now Mr Levin states (October 17) that *Mirror* reporters rammed Miss Keays's car, in my opinion (and in the opinion of every other member of the *Daily Mirror* staff) anyone criminally insane enough to deliberately ram a car driven by a pregnant woman should be sent to jail.

But even if this were considered reasonable behaviour in the Fleet Street of Bernard Levin's imagination, it would not make economic sense. Motor cars are valuable pieces of office equipment. That a why we don't chuck our typewriters at people. Even Mr Levin.

Yours faithfully,
M. MOLLOY, Editor,
Daily Mirror,
Mirror Group Newspapers Limited,
Holborn Circus, EC1,
October 17.

Victorian values

From Dr John Shannon

Sir, Perhaps I may offer some hope (and perhaps encouragement) to Mr Hartwell, who wrote to you (October 14) expressing his concern at the loss of another brick industrial chimney.

In York we have a good example of an early Victorian industrial brick chimney which, interestingly enough, still bears the camouflage put on it during the last war (a feature in itself of more than passing historical interest).

The chimney was, in June of this year, listed by the Secretary of State for the Environment as a building of special architectural and historical interest (grade II). It is indeed a good example of industrial archaeology which now worthily joins the other 1,200 listed buildings in York and the Secretary of State is to be congratulated on the breadth of vision which prompted him to include it.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SHANNON, Chairman,
York Civic Trust,
18 St Saviourgate,
York,
October 14.

Unkindest cut

From the Director of Christian Action

Sir, When I was Vicar of St George's, Camberwell, the local "Co-op" in St George's Way, SE15, proclaimed in passers by: Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd: Butcher's Self-service.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JAMES, Director,
Christian Action,
11 Denny Crescent,
Kennington, SE11,
October 8.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 677.8
FT 100: 81.28
FT All Share: 426.66 down 0.99
Bargains: 20.021
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 93.09 down 1.12
New York Dow Jones Average: 1282.50 down 1.02
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9420.90 up 36.56
Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 771.55 up 33.04
Amsterdam 150.4 down 0.9
Sydney AO Index: 687.8 down 4.8
Frankfurt Commerzbank Index: 961.80 up 8.40
Brussels General Index: 127.12 down 0.49
Paris CAC Index: 141.5 up 0.4
Zurich SKA General: 291.4 up 1.2

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5015 up 15pts
Index 83.6 unchanged
DM 3.91 down 0.02
FF 11.9425 down 0.0525
Yen 350 up 0.50
Dollar
Index 125.9 down 0.5
DM 2.6025 down 0.0175
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5015
Dollar DM 2.5990 down 0.021
INTERNATIONAL
ECU: 577.188
SRE: 703040

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 1/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/4
3 month DM 5 1/4
3 month FR 14 1/4-14 1/2
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 103 1/4-103 1/2
EODD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme 10
Average reference rate for interest period September 7, to October 4, 1983 inclusive: 9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$400.50 m \$395
close \$394.50 \$263
New York latest: \$394.80
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$408-407.50 (\$270.5-271)
Sovereigns (new):
\$93.94 (\$62-62.75)
Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim: Davies & Newman Holdings, EDITHS, Firmin & Sons, Harrison & Crossfield, Hunting Petroleum Services, Istock Johnson (amended), Walter Lawrence, London and Northern Group, More P-Ferrall, Whittington International Holdings.
Finals: Brooke Bond Group, Castle GB, Minerals Oils and Resources Shares Inc. Paterston Zochonis.
Compo 7 Albany Place, Edinburgh (11.00).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Fleming Japanese Investment Trust P & O Building, Leadenhall Street, EC3 (11.15).
Heelamat, Great Northern Hotel, Kings Cross, N1 (11.30).
Howard Shuttering, The Worcester, Malden Road, Surrey (10.30).
Ricardo Consulting Engineers, St Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street SW1 (noon).

● The Barrow works of British Steel in Cumbria will close on November 26 and 174 jobs will be lost. BSC says it will try to find other work for the employees but admits it will be difficult. Recently the mill has been working only two or three shifts a week and there have been heavy losses. BSC says that despite a vigorous sales drive the markets have continued to decline and there is no prospect of recovery.
● Mr Michael Ashcroft, chairman of Hawley Group, was yesterday appointed non-executive director of Cope Allman International, the Bell fruit machines company, where Hawley has built up a 29.9 per cent share stake.
● Fisons, the Ipswich-based pharmaceuticals group, is introducing the US convertible loan stock market next month by placing \$15m (£10m) stock with US investors. In April the group raised £28m in London through a rights issue to shareholders. The group's shares fell 10p to 649p on the stock market yesterday in response to news of the placing.

Buying spree fuelled by heavy borrowing

Consumer boom continues with record spending last month

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Spending in the shops in September was the highest on record, according to provisional estimates released by the Department of Trade and Industry yesterday.

The news, which took City experts and the retail trade somewhat by surprise, suggests that the consumer boom has not yet run out of steam, though the pace of spending growth is slower.

The volume of retail sales, adjusted for seasonal factors, jumped by nearly 3 per cent last month after falling in August, when record car sales may have depressed other spending.

However, business in the third quarter as a whole rose by a more modest 0.5 per cent over the second quarter. Officials said that, though month-to-

month movements were erratic, the underlying trend was one of "very slight growth".

The consumer spending spree has been fuelled by heavy borrowing from banks and credit companies, and by the rising purchasing power of those in work.

The ratio of debt to family income is close to the peak reached at the height of the "Barber boom" in the early 1970s, at around 180 per cent of total income. The average family is paying about 5 per cent of its income in interest, twice as much as a decade ago.

These figures include mortgages. The Bank of England has estimated that about half of all lending for house purchases leaks into spending on other things, equivalent last year to

RETAIL SALES			
	Sales by volume seasonally adjusted (1978=100)	Sales by value (not adjusted)	% change on year earlier
1982 Q1	108.5	+8	
Q2	108.1	+8	
Q3	108.9	+8	
Q4	110.7	+10	
1983 Q1	111.1	+8	
Q2	113.8	+9	
Q3	114.4 (p)	+10 (p)	

F & P provided Source: Department of Trade and Industry

about 7 per cent of consumer spending. Many City analysts believe that this trend cannot continue. The savings ratio - the proportion of income which is not

spent - has already fallen to 8 per cent, its lowest level since 1971. But there is little sign that consumers' appetite for loans, especially mortgages, is diminishing, even though credit agencies are beginning to report greater problems with defaults.

The credit information agency UAPT Infocredit said yesterday that applications for credit were up by 3.6 per cent in September from a year earlier, when credit demand was already buoyant.

This is largely due to the fact that those in work are much better off than they were a year or so ago, with earnings rising markedly faster than prices. But this gap may disappear next year.

Inflation is expected to rise from its present level of just

over 5 per cent, with some forecasters predicting rates of 6 to 7 per cent next year; the growth of earnings is expected to remain at about 7 per cent or to fall slightly.

The prospect of a tailing-off of consumer spending, up to now the main agent of economic recovery, has led to some gloom over the sustainability of the upturn next year. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, who last week repeated that he saw no sign of the recovery petering out, expects investment and exports to take over to drive the economy forward. But these have so far failed to materialize.

Meanwhile, much of the benefit from the consumer boom has gone to foreign rather than British producers.

Peg fails to hold HK dollar

By Wayne Lintell

The Hongkong dollar dropped sharply yesterday, the first trading day since the authorities pegged its rate to the US dollar on Saturday.

The Hongkong dollar ended the day at HK\$7.90-HK\$7.80 to the US dollar, despite a fixed exchange rate of HK\$7.80. The fixed rate provided a strong floor to the Hongkong Stock Exchange. It gained 33 points, but leading institutions were notable by their absence; they fear another increase in the 16 per cent bank rate.

Hongkong foreign exchange dealers reported a widespread rush by local Chinese "ever awake to a bargain" - changing the local currency into US dollars.

However, Sir John Bramridge, the Hongkong Financial Secretary, warned that the local people were not alone in

misunderstanding measures, "with the risk of burning their fingers". Bankers hoped that the initial bargain-hunting would be self-correcting in a few days when people realized the authorities could support the new fixed rate.

But in London, leading analysts of Hongkong shares were less confident. One pointed out that the fixed system applies only to notes in circulation, about 10 per cent of the total money supply, and that if there were substantial drawings on the colony's HK\$150bn savings, "then the authorities could find themselves facing enormous foreign exchange support bills".

Sir John said the Government was confident the exchange rate would settle at the fixed rate. But he made no

comment on bankers' fears that if the rush to convert into United States dollars continues the money supply would shrink forcing up interest rates.

The Hongkong Association of Banks said the arrangements may mean more frequent interest rate adjustments. This is a significant point - the commercial banks must support the new system.

The next round of Sino-British talks on the colony's future begin tomorrow.

● The dollar recovered some ground after falling late of Friday following the Federal Reserve's announcement of an unexpected \$1.1bn drop in United States money supply on Friday. However, it closed in London at DM2.6025, a drop of 1.75 pence from last week's level.

Cut imports for more jobs, says Cassels

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The importing of £35,000 worth of manufactured goods costs one British job, Mr John Cassels, director general of the National Economic Development Office, said yesterday.

"Every time British industry fights back and recaptures the market for those goods, it means a job extra for Britain."

In his first major speech since taking over at the NEDO in the summer, Mr Cassels, a top civil servant, called for a drive to combat imports as the most significant measure to reduce unemployment.

"There is no special mystery about it. It is not a big problem of investment and, above all, there is no magic ingredient foreigners have and we haven't. It is a question of a clear head and a willingness to stick at it."

"The stakes are high and British jobs and our standard of living in Britain depend on it."

A government study, initiated by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on where the new jobs will come from in post-recession Britain is to be presented to the National Economic Development Council later this year. Mr Cassels said: "What is for sure is that what creates jobs is coming out on top in the market."

Imports always rose when the economy began to do a bit



Cassels: jobs lost

better. "Britain is now a net importer of manufactured goods for the first time since the Industrial Revolution. And yet we export no less than £39,000m worth of manufactured goods each year and almost 40 per cent of our manufactured goods end up going abroad."

"So we can and do compete in world markets on a huge scale. The jobs of everybody in Britain depend on this. We can and should do better still."

For every 1 per cent growth in income, Britain's manufactured imports go up by 3 per cent, and the country's share of trade in manufactures within the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development fell from 12.3 per cent in 1964 to only 8 per cent in 1976. The figure was still below 9 per cent.

Chairman goes after Thames Inv loss

By Andrew Cornelius

Thames Investment & Securities, one of the first companies to join the Unlisted Securities Market in 1980, yesterday reported losses of £4.9m and a boardroom shake-up after problems with a \$20m (£13m) property deal in the United States. Thames made profits of £412,000 last time.

The losses include a £2.58m writedown in the value of the group's 30-strong portfolio of property in Britain, which was previously valued at £17m. Mr Anthony Game, a director, said these properties, which are mainly commercial and industrial developments, in the Midlands and North, will be sold within the next six to 12 months.

In future Thames will concentrate on property developments which are pre-funded by institutional investors. Shareholders will be given details at an extraordinary meeting on October 31. At the meeting they

will also be asked to approve the payment of a £50,000 "golden handshake" to Mr Joseph Benjamin, the founder and chairman of the company. Mr Benjamin's resignation follows the decision to pull out of a proposed \$20m property development in Miami after Thames failed to find a partner to help fund it.

Subject to shareholders' approval, the project will be taken over, at no cost to Thames, by Mr Tom Whyte, an international financier.

● Trading resumed yesterday in shares of Chemical Methods Associates, the American dishwasher manufacturers, which were suspended at 60p. Under the terms of a deal announced by Aitken Hume, advisers to the company, shareholders who invested in the company when it was launched on the USM during the summer stand to regain the 115p they originally paid.

Aer Lingus sells off country club

By Philip Robinson

Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, has sold its 400-acre Foxhills Country Club, in Surrey's green belt, to Barratt Multi-Ownership & Hotels, the housebuilding company.

The airline will net £1.6m for the complex, which includes two 18-hole golf courses, six tennis courts, five squash courts, a swimming pool and outdoor planning permission for 50 apartments.

It is part of a major sell-off of non-airline assets to help meet a £920m (£23.5m) loan shortfall, the difference between what Aer Lingus asked in loans from the Irish Government and what it was granted.

Foxhills was bought by Aer Lingus in 1973 as part of a diversification to help balance losses from operating the airline. Aer Lingus as a group should break even for the year to next March but the airline will make losses.

Mr Connor McGrath, Aer Lingus United Kingdom general manager, said yesterday: "The sale is part of our review. Foxhills was making a profit but was not giving us the return on capital we demanded."

Mr Frank Chapman, Multi-Ownership's chairman, said last night: "I have had my eye on Foxhills for about three years. It has a lot of potential from our point of view."

The Government has recently indicated it might relax its view on rules governing building permission in the green belt. There may be pockets of up to a third of the total Foxhills area which could be used for housebuilding.

Mr Chapman added: "This has been bought by the leisure side of Barratt. There is no involvement with the housebuilding operations."

Transport shares rally

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were mixed in moderate trading early yesterday although the transportation sector showed strong gains.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down about 1 1/2 points. The transportation index was up 6 1/2 points to 587.

Advances and declines were about even.

Mr Ralph Acampora, vice-president and market analyst for Kidder Peabody, said he was expecting the see-sawing to continue with the primary stocks and everything else counter-balancing each other.

He noted that although "the transportation average is doing very well much of the gain is coming in a couple of the components".

American Telephone & Telegraph was 6 1/4, up 1/4; International Business Machines was 13 1/2, down 1/4; General Motors 7 1/4, up 1/4; TRW 7 1/4, down 1/4; Monsanto 11 1/4, up 1/4; Mesa Petroleum 15 1/4, up 1/4; Gulf Oil 47 1/4, up 1/4; and Becton Dickinson 42 1/4, unchanged.

AMR Corp was up 1/4 at 29; Chicago & North Western up 2 at 51 1/4; Burlington Northern up 3/4 to 104 1/4; Southern Pacific up 3/4 to 37 1/4; CSX up 1 1/4 to 74 1/4; Delta Airlines up 1/4 at 35 1/4; and Northwest Air up 1 at 41 1/4.

Thomson Medical was trading at 17 1/4, down 6 1/4 after a delayed opening at 17.

Minister sets deadline for minimum commissions

Stock Exchange move 'soon'

By Derek Pain

Mr Alex Fletcher, the minister responsible for corporate and consumer affairs at the Department of Trade and Industry, said in New York yesterday that stockbrokers' minimum commissions would be phased out by the end of 1986.

The first move was likely to be taken within a matter of months.

In what is the first Government response since last week's overwhelming decision by Stock Exchange members to support the proposed reforms, he said: "I welcome the fact that the industry believes it says much about the determination of the City of London to continue its pre-eminence in position in international securities dealings."

Mr Fletcher was addressing the British American Chamber of Commerce. He had earlier visited the New York Stock Exchange and had talks with officials. Last week he visited the Stock Exchanges of Chicago and Toronto.

He said: "We decided during the summer that the adversarial processes of a court were not the



Fletcher: welcomes vote

best way to settle the future of an important financial market and regulatory authority, essential to the working of the economy and the management of the Government debt.

"We were clear that changes were needed. But we did decide that the separation of brokers and jobbers was justified in the interest of investors and we told the Stock Exchange that we would be happy to see it

preserved for the time being and indeed, if necessary, to give it some legislative backing."

But it was made clear that single capacity might not be possible once commissions were negotiable.

"I am ready to be convinced that this is the case, but if the London Stock Exchange does decide to change its single capacity system, comparable safeguards would have to be provided," said Mr Fletcher.

The Stock Exchange Council, he said, had agreed to "alter the entry rules so that they are less like those of a private club and more appropriate to an institution which is the nation's main capital market."

On the end of minimum commission Mr Fletcher said there was "an extremely interesting debate" on whether the remaining commissions should be "de-restricted in one stage - what is becoming known as the 'big bang' - or whether there should be two or more steps."

There was, said Mr Fletcher, a strong body of opinion that the restrictions should all go at once as they did in New York eight years ago.

City Editor's Comment

A strong man for industry

One clear reason for welcoming Mr Norman Tebbit to the Trade and Industry Department is that this composite department needs leadership with his brand of tough-mindedness.

There were always policy tensions in both trade and industry departments. Now that they have been merged these conflicts are explicit and hard to sweep under the carpet: free trade, competition and market forces on the one hand; success of strategic industries combined with promotion of the interests of successful enterprises on the other.

The Stock Exchange case, a nettle already grasped in principle, does not entirely fit into this simple split, since critics argued that reforms, while not wanted by its members, were necessary to further the City's successful international role.

Yet there is room for manoeuvre and the monitoring committee, set up to make sure the reforms required under the Parkinson-Gordon agreement were pursued with vigour, may well, under Mr Tebbit, take a harsher line with any defensive flannel.

The debate over merger policy may prove more tricky, but exposes the issues as clearly as any part of Mr Tebbit's wide portfolio.

The newcomer will surely be unable to avoid giving some new guidelines to businessmen on what the Government's merger policy actually is, especially if, as expected, the department moves to raise from £15m to £25m the qualifying level for mergers to be scrutinized automatically by the director-general of Fair Trading.

The last real policy statement came from Sir John Nott when he was Trade Secretary back in 1980 and, although that questioned the role of conglomerate mergers, it was hardly crystal clear.

The department's view is

that the tests should be left as open as possible, to avoid a legalistic approach and to give both the director-general and the Monopolies Commission maximum scope for a commonsense, case-by-case approach.

There was much to be said for this argument until it was undermined by a series of quixotic ministerial decisions.

Mr Tebbit should not shrink from widening the robust competition ideal to a general suspicion of mergers. Once it is made clear that takeover bidders need to make a public interest case, there need be no apologies in Whitehall for waving through individual exceptions where justified.

Ready for take off

The British Airports Authority, unlike some of the nationalized industries, is not reluctant to be privatized.

Indeed, it is so keen on joining the private sector, provided it can do so on its own terms as a single corporation, that it appears almost to be running away with itself.

Yesterday it produced a report by its merchant bank and stockbroker advisers discussing the likely "investor perception" the corporation will face when it comes to market.

The conclusion, not surprisingly, is that BAA will be a growth stock with good potential. The management's record is described as outstanding and there are no problems of "nationalized industry attitudes".

The only difficulty with this is that the Government has not made up its mind whether to float the airports on the market or split them into separate components. Surely Mr Nicholas Ridley, two days into his new job as transport secretary and with something of a "ultra-dry" reputation, will not feel that he is being bounced into something?

BAA sale 'faster as one unit'

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

A stock market flotation of the British Airports Authority is unlikely before the autumn of 1985 at the earliest, Mr Norman Payne, the chairman, said yesterday.

He was speaking as the authority stepped up its campaign to survive as a distinct entity rather than being split up. The Government is facing pressure from backbench MPs and some airlines to break up the authority on the grounds that would lead to greater competition.

Deciding how best to proceed with the privatization of the authority's seven airports, which include Heathrow and Gatwick, will be one of the earliest tasks confronting the new Transport Secretary, Mr

Nicholas Ridley, after his weekend elevation to the Cabinet.

In a statement published yesterday, the authority said: "The Government can achieve its privatization aims most quickly and in the most financially beneficial manner if it retains the authority in its present form."

"There would be no competitive benefit from fragmentation of the BAA into individual airport units. Fragmentation would have major adverse consequences on investment, would be tax inefficient and would lead to the Government remaining as owners of airports making losses and requiring capital investment."

The authority also released a

report by its City advisers - the merchant bank Schroders and broker Hoare Govett - which argues that flotation of the airports as a whole will raise more cash for the Government than the sale of individual airports.

Earnings from Heathrow, which made a £45m trading profit last year, would be well down if it were sold as a single airport because tax liabilities could not be offset elsewhere, and the Government would also have to meet the £400m cost of developing Stansted, they say.

Apart from Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, the authority runs four Scottish airports (Edinburgh, Prestwick, Glasgow and Aberdeen) which between them lost £3m last year.

Norton Opax buys printing firm

By Our Financial Staff

Norton Opax, the Leeds-based lottery printers which bowed out of a takeover battle for John Waddington last summer, is paying £4.4m for Broadprint Group, a security printing firm.

Norton is offering seven of its own shares and £12 cash for each Broadprint ordinary share, or a £20.25 cash alternative. It is also offering £1 cash for each

Broadprint preference share. Part of the money required to meet the cash alternative will be raised through Laurence Prust and Co., a stockbroker, which will sell Norton shares to cover the cost of giving Broadprint shareholders cash.

The group says the acquisition will be a significant addition to Norton's security printing operations. Once the

offer has been completed, a director of Broadprint will join Norton and Mr Richard Hanwell, Norton chief executive, will become Broadprint chairman.

Last summer, Norton made an all-share bid worth £15m for Waddington, the board-game group. In battle for control against British Printing and Communication Corporation,

LRC to extend bonuses

By Our Financial Staff

More than 4,000 British employees of LRC International will be able to benefit from a performance-linked bonus scheme which has helped make the group's executive, Mr Alan Woltz, one of the highest paid directors in the country.

Last year, Mr Woltz earned the full 30 per cent bonus allowed under the performance-related earnings scheme he introduced after taking over as chief executive of the contraceptives-toothpaste syrup company in 1979. His £231,461 (£154,000) pay cheque puts him at the top end of the earnings league among British executives, but behind fellow American, Mr Richard Giordano, chief executive of BOC, the gases group, who is the highest paid executive with a salary of £270,000 for last year.

Mr Woltz and 75 senior managers earned their 30 per cent bonus last year for their efforts in turning round the ailing LRC group. It is on course for pretax profits of about £15m in the current year, against £12.2m in the year to March 31. Mr Woltz is planning to make a major acquisition of up to £50m

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE

UK exports to Gulf States up 13.3%

British exporters have beaten the demand downturn among oil-producing Gulf states by registering a 13.3 per cent rise in sales this year.

Exports rose to £2,172m in the first eight months, with the most significant increase coming in Saudi Arabia (up 15.5 per cent to £1,012m) and the most spectacular in Oman (up 81.7 per cent to £295m).

Specialists are, however, not satisfied. The Committee for Middle East Trade (Comet), which advises the Government, is sending its assistant director, Miss Averil Harrison, on a month-long investigation of new buying techniques being developed by the Gulf states.

She will study the Gulf Cooperation Council's purchasing tactics, which are already having an impact on procurement of medical supplies, these tactics are expected to be extended to other areas soon.

The GCC will hold a meeting in Doha on November 7 and 8, and its secretary-general, Mr Abdullah Bishari, is expected to visit London to explain its business aims shortly afterwards.

The tentative date for the London conference is December 1.

About 100 businessmen attended a Comet Conference on pan-Arab cooperation two months ago, and the next event is certain to be even more popular.

"Many people do not believe what is happening," Miss Harrison said, "but companies must not underestimate what the GCC is doing."

Many observers have written off the Gulf states' attempts to emulate Europe's Common Market with the GCC, having seen its establishment a few years ago as primarily a defence grouping.

"There are more failed resolutions in the Arab world than anywhere else," said one. "But the GCC has done remarkably well. It is not only doing away with an excess of industrial white elephants, but has also abolished internal tariffs and is just starting to harmonize those for foreign purchases."

Problems have arisen in the import agency area. Abu Dhabi and Dubai have gone against GCC wishes by demanding that only their own nationals should represent foreign suppliers in their markets.

But when the purchasing power of the GCC's 10 million consumers - which includes those in Oman, Bahrain and Qatar - is combined, the rules of the sales game change dramatically.

A medical supplies office in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, started out buying only pharmaceuticals. It now purchases massive quantities of bandages, plastic syringes and so on, and looks set to move into more up-market equipment.

Mr Monty Montchloff, senior executive of the British Healthcare Export Council, went out two years ago, to investigate its buying practices.

"The few companies which had latched on to it were not surprisingly, keeping it to themselves," he explained.

The Gulf countries meet once a year and compile a huge set of tender documents. These detail everything to be bought jointly in the next 12 months. They also agree on which foreign companies are going to be allowed to bid against local suppliers.

However, it tends to be a case of the winner takes all: the firm with the keenest quote can usually expect to walk away with an order for its product from six markets.

John Lawless

1984 fears make further market fall likely

At the beginning of this month the London market appeared to be safely over 700. There was much talk of recovery, lower inflation, and higher company profits. But since then, the fall has been far and fast. Is this a technical reaction or are we being told something important about 1984?

Undoubtedly there has been a modest reaction. From January to July the FT ordinary index went up, albeit unevenly, by almost 25 per cent. The sharpest drop, ironically came in the aftermath of the Conservatives' election triumph.

But throughout most of the year the upward march of the index was a direct response to a change of mood. Unemployment might be very bad and getting worse, and interest rates proved reluctant to decline, but both the British and the world economy were believed to be on the mend.

Such was the contrast with the darkest years of the recession that the market forged ahead. It was inevitable that the rise should be exaggerated.

The question now, however, is whether more robust forces are also behind the market's weakness. The central paradox is that while the world economy - or at least the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development members - may enjoy faster growth next year, Britain probably will not.

More than that, inflation is

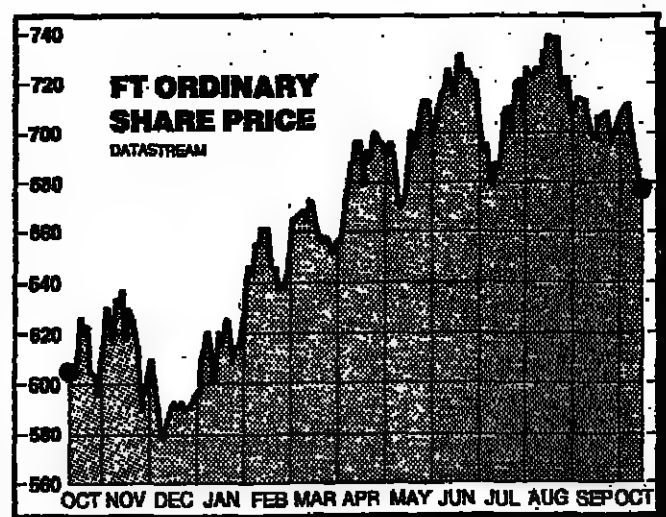
likely to accelerate balance of payments difficulties could emerge, and there is the suspicion - not improved by the Government's uphill struggle in cutting ministerial budget expansion - that money supply growth has been tamed only by massive overfunding.

Such a prospect is not an economic disaster, but it is discouraging for the market. Gilt could suffer the most, but the unfathomable behaviour of American interest rates will probably be decisive in that vital sector.

Equities, by contrast, have accommodated themselves to current interest rates and fairly big movements up or down would be required to alter the market's perception of corporate profits.

Corporate costs could increase as the present wage round produces settlements higher than the unusually quiescent previous round. It is possible that British industry is approaching the point at which the profitability of extra capacity utilization diminishes. Fund managers will then add further to their already sizable overseas portfolios.

The behaviour of the market suggests, therefore, that it does not expect a bull phase to start again for a while. A continued fall is likely, followed by a rebound and then sideways movement. The best hope is that it will not be a full bear market.



Norcross-UBM

Norcross appears to have pushed itself into a corner by bidding £75m for UBM, the builders' merchant group. The share and cash alternative runs out tomorrow afternoon and is likely to be a cliff-hanger.

Pressure was building yesterday and attempts will continue today to convince shareholders to accept the Norcross offer. Its share value UBM at 131p with a 125p cash alternative against a UBM price of 124p, down 1p.

The way Norcross has been converting some acceptances into ownership by buying the shares offered has made it difficult to gauge shareholders' feelings.

Two UBM shareholders not to have accepted are Newarthill, the MacAlpine company holding 10 per cent, and the UBM Pension Fund with about 0.2 per cent. Newarthill opposes the bid.

This means that Norcross faces difficulty obtaining sufficient acceptances on these terms for it to buy UBM outright. It needs acceptances of more than 90 per cent for it to compulsorily purchase those shares which did not accept the offer.

Failure to secure more than 50 per cent for control will mean some slippage in the UBM price - it has been 76p this year - and leave Norcross with a 34 per cent stake.

That might give it leverage for board representation which in turn could help inspire UBM to the £10m profit it has promised in order to pay a 6.5p dividend.

UBM shareholders risk little by allowing this particular offer to pass them by.

Australian bulldog bond

The Government has stuck firmly to its policy of steering clear of the long end of the gilt market in an attempt to encourage British corporate borrowers to return to the debt market.

With a few exceptions, however, the policy has not been blessed with much success. Companies remain reluctant to commit themselves to borrowing long-term at fixed rates in the present climate.

Sovereign borrowers, however, have shown no such reluctance to avail themselves of the fixed interest sterling market. Yesterday saw a £100m bulldog bond issue from the Commonwealth of Australia bringing the total raised on the bulldog market - domestic sterling issues by foreign borrowers - to £445m this year and the nominal value of all bulldog issues to £1,685m.

By contrast major British corporate borrowers have raised only £150m this year. Warburg and an impressive array of co-managers are arranging

ing the £100m Australian issue which matures in 2015.

The Australian issue will be priced tomorrow to yield 110 basis points over the Treasury 13½ per cent 2004-08. Its previous issue is trading at about 120 points over but the new issue is five years longer and likely to be issued at about 85 per cent thus giving investors the prospect of a capital gain.

Amic

The sharp downturn in the fortunes of Anglo-American Industrial Corporation (Amic), the South African industrial arm of the mighty Anglo-American conglomerate, has prompted the first of what may be a string of subsidiary sales.

Anglo-American Industrial has sold its African Products offshoot to Tongaat-Hulett for R86.1m.

Amic is an accurate barometer of the South African economy. Its widespread interests encompass much of the most active activity of the country. Last year, the recession knocked over R120m (£75m) off turnover to R765m (£478m).

Amic's motor car manufacturing division is suffering badly. Tongaat-Hulett has faced somewhat better and so is only having to pay R3.1m (£2m) in cash with the rest in shares. That will give Amic 47.1 per cent of Tongaat, up from 38.3 per cent.

Buy British, with a little bit of Japanese, says ERF

By Wayne Lintott

Senior executives from Japan's biggest commercial vehicle company, HINO, will pay a crucial visit this week to Britain's only remaining independent heavy-truck maker, ERF.

They will not, as has been suggested, be investing much-needed cash in ERF, and they will not be mounting a rescue operation, as ERF's competitors have suggested.

But the visit could result in HINO selling to ERF components and cabs from its 12 to 15 ton range, enabling ERF to manufacture a wider range of vehicles (it now makes trucks of 16 tons and over). Such a deal could be the prelude to HINO supplying a wider range of lighter vehicles.

Mr Peter Foden, chairman and managing director of ERF, and the son of the founder, said that "the company is not dependent on the HINO deal". But he does admit that it would help.

Foreign manufacturers are mounting road shows and intensive marketing campaigns as the market turns up, albeit slowly. They are, in effect, attempting to woo away distributors of British trucks with extraordinary discounts of up to £5,000 and year-long credit facilities. They are attempting to put out of business one or more of the British truck companies.

The last three years have been disastrous for the European truck market. Sales slumped from a 1979 peak of 250,000 to below 150,000. In Britain, the market fell more than half in a year, leaving British Leyland saying that its truck subsidiary was literally "fighting for survival".

The effect of that slump on ERF was that it went from record profits and sales in 1979/1980 to losses in 1981. Sales were cut by half, to about 600, and sales of more than 3,000 a year have fallen to an expected level this year of 1,500.

In 1983 ERF expects to



Foden: "We have learned to live on a reduced share"

produce a small profit, but it is not expected to pay dividends. Indeed, last week it passed a dividend payment on its preference shares for the second time this year.

The HINO deal would enable ERF in its 50th anniversary year to offer a wider range of vehicles and thus greater profits to its 26 distributors. But Mr Foden, apparently thriving in the face of adversity is adamant: "We will not buy our market share. We have learned to live on a much reduced share and are now achieving a significant trading improvement."

A visit around the company's Cheshire plant shows why. The assembly line is being redesigned and by January will enable a doubling of production without any significant increase in costs or employees. The work is being done by in-house labour. The result will be that if ERF can sell only two more trucks a day, profits will jump to £2m a year from the present break-even level.

One reason why foreign manufacturers are being aggressive is that Marks and Spencer has told the company which operates its 160 heavy truck fleet to buy British. The operator has been buying DAF and removing the logo from the front of the cab. M and S is now testing an ERF truck.

As Mr Foden pointed out, if

two or three other supermarket groups followed suit, the result for Britain's manufacturers would be dramatic. The market for 32-to-38 tonners is 9,000 a year.

"We cannot compete on price. How can we offer a 15 per cent discount and free credit? We depend on quality. We build our trucks to last at least 20 per cent longer than the foreign competition and with at least 30 per cent lower running costs."

The second-hand retail value of ERF is the best in the market. ERF uses Rolls-Royce, Gardner and Cummins engines.

ERF is now mounting an aggressive marketing campaign of its own to show that it makes economic sense to buy British.

The slump in sales has knocked the ERF share price to around the 40p level, making it, analysts suggest, vulnerable to a takeover.

"We have had talks," Mr Foden said, "but there have been no bid offers. They all seem interested in upping market share by waiting for one of the major companies to go down or pull out."

But Mr Foden argues, market share does not go hand-in-hand with profits, as British Leyland illustrates.

The Foden family owns 40 per cent of the ERF equity, with Hawker Siddeley holding 10 per cent, and the rest spread widely. Loans match shareholders' funds in the company, about as high as debt can safely go. But Mr Foden said that ERF's banker, Barclays, is supportive.

One of the benefits accruing to ERF has been its plastics interests which contributed £400,000 to profits and should become "a very significant part of the company over the next three years."

The mainstay will remain heavy-duty lorries. ERF will soon be capable of producing more than 4,000 vehicles a year which means that "we could produce more light-weight HINO component vehicles than the market could buy."

RHM ends flour deal for £7m

By Vivien Goldsmith

Ranks Hovis McDougall is paying more than £7m to Delagety to cancel the flour supply agreement set up in 1978 when Delagety's subsidiary Spillers Milling withdrew from local baking.

The industry shuddered as Spillers spent £22m closing 23 bakeries with the loss of 8,000 jobs and sold 13 of its plants to its rivals Ranks Hovis McDougall and Associated British Foods. As part of the sale deal Spillers was to supply flour to certain RHM bakeries for 10 years.

"I wish we had not had to concede the point that we had to buy flour from a competitor for 10 years - but we did," said a RHM spokesman. "It was flour that we could have supplied ourselves."

Neither party will specify the details of the contract except to say that sales decreased over the years of the contract, and are now about 8 per cent of Spillers' output.

Now with less than five years to run and two thirds of the tonnage supplied RHM is able to take over the supply from its own 14 mills without taking on any extra staff.

Mr Terry Pryce, the chief executive at Delagety, said he was "delighted" with the deal. The flour was being supplied from five of the company's 10 mills which were "almost overloaded."



Pryce... delighted with the deal

Norway raises its N Sea estimates

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Norway has followed Britain in reassessing the importance of its North Sea oil reserves and opening a second of its offshore industry.

Estimates of oil and gas reserves in the Norwegian sector have been revised from the equivalent of 2.7 billion tonnes of oil to 3.5 billion tonnes and the Troll field has now been classified as commercially viable.

This field contains 1.6 billion tonnes of natural gas. At first its development was classified as marginal, but now it is being seen as a possible alternative source of gas for north-west Europe when Soviet gas supplies come on stream in the 1990s.

Norway hopes that new production techniques will enable it to price the Troll field gas at a level competitive with Soviet supplies.

The reassessment of Norwegian North Sea reserves means that companies which have bid for exploration licences in Arctic waters for north of Norway are now making these bids conditional of being given licences for exploration and production in the Norwegian sector.

The latest round of Norwegian licence applications has

resulted in 24 companies submitting proposals. Licences will be awarded in January with most companies bidding for rights in a block north of the existing Stratford oilfield.

The upgrading of Norwegian estimates of recoverable North Sea reserves comes as Marathon Oil UK has won the Department of Energy approval for the development of its North Brava field.

Marathon estimates that bringing North Brava into production will involve a £1 billion investment with over 70 per cent of the money being spent with British companies.

Marathon has placed the contract for the jacket design with Brown and Root in Britain and for the design of the platform modules with Mowlem Hill Engineering in New Zealand.

Contracts for the jacket construction will be placed at the end of next year - foreign firms will be asked to tender but the contract is likely to go to a British firm.

Because of the technical problems involved in a gas condensate field, the Brava B platform will be among the largest in the North Sea. The Brava A platform at 36,000 tonnes topside is already among the largest.

Russell Brothers sold

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Neil Phoenix, a 40-year-old chartered accountant, has launched a £720,000 agreed bid for the tiny exhibition contracting and shopfitting group Russell Brothers of Paddington.

The controlling Russell family put their 56 per cent stake in the company up for sale in June. Now they have agreed to sell to Mr Phoenix for £1 a share.

Mr Phoenix will be extending this offer to other shareholders in accordance with City takeover rules. But his bid became of little more than academic interest yesterday as the price of Russell shares soared from 115p to 145p on news of his

involvement.

Now there is no incentive for anyone other than the family to accept his offer. Mr Phoenix said that he wanted to preserve the share quote anyway, and would have arranged for the brokers to the offer, Dr Zoete and Bevan, to underwrite his offer so that the quote could be maintained should it have become necessary.

Four of the group's six directors will resign as a result of the transaction and a Mr William Johnston will be appointed to the board as chief executive. The company has recorded small losses in three of its last four trading years.

Courtaulds' £8m plastics deal

By Jeremy Warner

Courtaulds is tidying up its relationship with the French group Rhone-Poulenc Films in a move which will mean it investing another £8m in oriented polypropylene packaging.

The British textiles company will buyout Rhone's 25 per cent minority interest in BCL, buy a 75 per cent interest in Rhone's oriented polypropylene packaging company near Paris, and establish a joint venture with Rhone to market the product throughout Europe.

Courtaulds is already committed to a £22m expansion of BCL's factory at Swindon, which also makes the product.

Japan clears decks ahead of upturn

By Jeremy Warner

Mr Kiyashi Kawashima last week resigned as president of Honda Motor, the motorcycle division of Honda, apparently sacrificed to the sharp downturn in profitability the company has seen in the last year.

He was the second Japanese motorcycle boss within six months to bow out in the face of falling profits. In April Mr Hisao Koide resigned as chairman of Yamaha after it reporting both falling sales and profits.

It is ironic for both men that their departure coincides not with the beginning of hard times but the end. Dramatic improvements in

company profits, in the motorcycle industry, and across the board, are widely expected in Japan when third quarter figures begin to be reported next month.

The Japanese stock market has been way ahead of events. As the most famous names of the Japanese consumer electronics, motor, steel, textiles and chemical industries have reported their worst, share prices have surged ahead on the back of the expected export-led recovery.

Over the past year, the Nikkei Dow Jones, the equivalent of the Financial Times index, has risen from under 7,000 to over 9,400.

The market has come off the top over the last week, but that is hardly surprising given the growing prospect of conflict in Korea and the political uncertainty caused by the recent conviction of Mr Kakuei Tanaka, a former prime minister, for his role in the Lockheed bribery scandal.

The big fall in company profits was caused primarily by the cost of carrying excessive stocks at high interest rates in a period of flat or falling demand.

Japanese companies became victims of their own success and the astonishing growth rates of the past. When the crunch came, they found they had hopelessly overproduced.

That crunch, however, has been a mere hiccup by British standards, as Mr Norman Tebbit, the new Trade and Industry Secretary, will discover when he visits Japan.

Now exports and home demand are picking up strongly, helped earlier this year by a weak yen and oil prices. Japan may never again achieve the growth rates seen in the 1960s and 1970s, but it will continue to outperform other developed countries. This year, GDP is expected to rise by more than 4 per cent.

Such rates have attracted European investors into the Japanese stock market in increasing numbers.

APPOINTMENTS

Managing director for Fina Exploration

Fina Exploration Dr P. H. Jungels has been appointed managing director of Fina Exploration, a new company formed by The International Petrofina Group.

The Cronite Group: Mr David Pinsten, a non-executive director, has been appointed chairman in succession to Mr K. F. Ward, who has retired.

AI International Group: Mr Francis R. Black has become finance director for the International Group of Allegheny International of Pittsburgh.

Peterson Jenks: Mr Peter Geoghegan has joined the main board of the company as production director.

Buckley's Brewery: Li Col W. Keatinge, who is retiring as chairman, will stay on the board as president for three years. Mr Griffith W. G. Phillips becomes the new chairman and Mr Colin P. Thomas and Mr Gerald A. Hansard have become joint managing directors.

Barton Cammells: Mr J. W. Parkinson has been made sales and marketing director.

The Finsen Group: Mr Finlay McPherson has become director of UK operations.

Geison: Mr Tony Kench has been appointed managing director of The company's operations in Britain and Ireland. He succeeds Mr Harold Stover who has become head of Geison operations in Northern Europe.

Kerfoot-Hill: Mr John Brown has been named as managing director-designate. He will assume control in January.

Hazmac (Handling): Mr John N. S. Deane has been appointed managing director with Mr Ashley Thomas as marketing director and Mr Christopher J. S. Baker as financial director.

Natash: Mr Maguire, Company: Mr Brian Boddy has been elected to the board.

The Liverpool Daily Post and Echo: Mr Graham Charles Pearson has been made a director.

Cecil M. Yellie: Mr Maurice Drabble has been appointed development director.

Parsons-Marshall: Mr Christopher Smith and Mr David Young have been appointed to the board.

Lloyds Bank: Mr Mel Jones has become chief investment manager, following the retirement of Mr Bert Morris. Mr Bruce Ackerman becomes deputy chief investment manager and Mr E. W. "Chip" Shipley is appointed marketing manager.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

BFM Holdings
Year to 27.5.83
Pre-tax profit £1.4m (£408,000)
Stated earnings 9.9p (loss 0.2p)
Turnover £82.7m (£89.8m)
Net interim dividend 18.75p per cent (same)

Enth
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £783,000 (£228,000)
Stated earnings 2.76p (1.78p)
Turnover £20.3m (£17.7m)
Net interim dividend 0.55p (0.7p)

F. Summer Holdings
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax loss £112,000 (£92,000)
Loss per share 0.42p (0.34p)
Turnover £2.6m (£3.3m)
Net interim dividend None (same)

Western Brothers
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £12,000 (£5,000)
Turnover £3m (£3.5m)
Net interim dividend None

Thames Investment and Securities
Year to 31.5.83
Pre-tax loss £1.8m (profit £412,000)
Loss per share 56p (profit 11.1p)
Turnover £1.9m (£1.5m)

Credentia Print
Year to 30.6.83
Attributable profit £416,000 (£304,000)
Stated earnings 8.6p (4.7p)
Turnover £5.3m (£4.1m)
Net interim dividend 1.06p (0.785p)

Bryant Holdings
Year to 31.5.83
Pre-tax profit £7.7m (£9.8m)
Stated earnings 7.9p (8.3p)
Turnover £25m (£27.2m)
Net dividend 2.2p (2p)

● In a £2m deal, the Esplanade-Tyres property group has sold a portfolio of industrial, warehouse and retail properties, mainly in the Midlands.

● The 28m, the buyer will pay £4.25m on completion. Rent is a deferred, but guaranteed payment.

● Steam Dies, running five hotels in Scotland, is up for sale. The company, which at one time planned a stock market flotation, made profits of £1.3m in the year to end-April. Major shareholders are Siskew Group and the founder is Mr Robert Mullins.

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WALL STREET							
Company	Price	Change	Volume	Company	Price	Change	Volume
Alcoa Inc.	17 1/2	1/2	100	Gen. Elec.	48 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Can.	10 1/4	1/4	100	Grumman	95 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Int'l.	10 1/4	1/4	100	Hughes Aircraft	75 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Int'l. Paper	10 1/4	1/4	100	IBM	174 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Int'l. Paper	10 1/4	1/4	100	Rockwell	65 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Int'l. Paper	10 1/4	1/4	100	Rockwell	65 1/4	1/4	100
Am. Int'l. Paper	10 1/4	1/4	100	Rockwell	65 1/4	1/4	100
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Marketing and advertising: Torin Douglas

Which energy claims are true?

Aggressive advertising campaigns by the gas and electricity industries vigorously knocking each other have provoked several members of the public to write to the Advertising Standards Authority.

Most of them were not complaining, however, but sending out cries of help about their confusion over conflicting claims on central heating costs. Which is right? they were asking.

Their letters were sparked off by two campaigns still running from gas heating manufacturers, taking issue with claims by the Electricity Council and the regional electricity boards that night storage heaters, running on the Economy 7 tariff, are cheaper to buy and run than gas central heating systems.

One campaign is run by the Gas Central Heating Group, which is made up of manufacturers such as Baxi, Potterton International and Glow-worm. The campaign includes some extremely aggressive advertisements by Saatchi & Saatchi. One shows an electric flex tied in a noose, with the headline "Gas central heating costs are nowhere near as painful".

Another advertisement is headed "Night-time saving. Daylight robbery" and states: "The Electricity Council make a lot of noise about how cheap it is to run their storage heaters on night-time Economy 7 electricity. But how do they make you pay for that lovely cheap night-time electricity? You've guessed it. More expensive daytime electricity. A lot more expensive. It's not so much Economy 7, as False Economy 7".

A third advertisement shows a cartoon of a man hurling a night storage heater out of the window under the headline "How to turn off night storage heating". While gas central heating can be turned on or off at the flick of a switch, says the advertisement, people with electric storage heaters "have to decide the night before if they want the heating on next day... They can turn it down but not off".

As if this were not enough, the Electricity Council finds itself simultaneously under fire from the Gas Wall Heaters Manufacturers. The campaign, produced by the Advertising Agency Partnership, refers to the users of electric storage heaters as "Wallies". "Only a Wallie thinks bigger is hotter",

says one headline. Another reads: "False Economy 7, or real economy gas. Don't be a Wallie".

People who have recently bought electric storage heaters may well be upset because the implication is that they have been conned. The Electricity Council has complained to the ASA about the Saatchi & Saatchi advertisements, and the Electric Home Bureau, which represents electric heating manufacturers, has complained about both campaigns.

Mr John Parin, account director at the AAP, is unrepentant about his agency's campaign and, though the ASA's official ruling will not be published for some weeks - after it has been before the Code of Advertising Practice Committee - it seems clear that the "wallies" campaign will continue in much the same form as before, with only a few minor alterations to the body copy.

According to Mr Parin: "Electric storage heaters have made a dramatic comeback in recent years as a result of very successful advertising by the Electricity Council. Sales have risen from 80,000 units in 1976 to around 350,000 last year, and in the first six months of 1983 sales are reported to be up a further 65 per cent. By contrast, sales of gas wall heaters have remained static for the past three years."

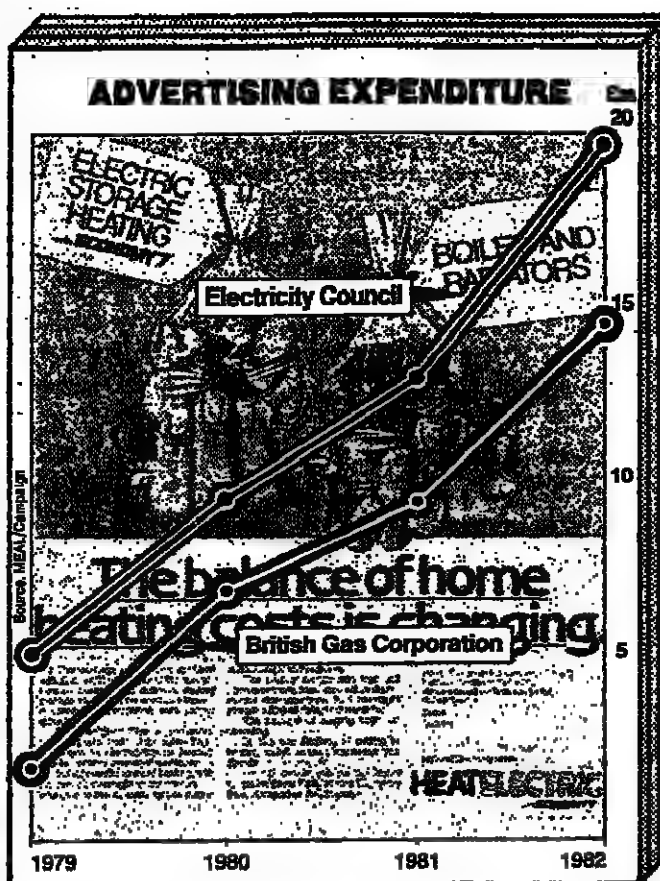
"Yet the electric storage heater is, we believe, a dinosaur product - heavy, unwieldy and uncontrollable. We believe that the public has been confused by the Electricity Council's cam-

The implication is that some buyers have been conned

aign and we felt the best way to reverse the trend was by tackling their claims head-on and providing a direct comparison between the cost of installing and running electric storage heaters and gas wall heaters.

"Our ads are actually very detailed and are a positive attempt to increase sales. The use of the term 'wallie' is merely a dramatic way of focusing attention on the issues."

The electricity versus gas row is not the first "knocking copy" argument this year, but what differentiates it from cases such as that of the two lawnmower



manufacturers, Qualcast and Flymo, or the takeover battle between Cunard and P&O, in both of which conflicting claims were made in heavyweight advertising campaigns, is the fact that public money is involved.

The amount, however, may not be astronomical.

The two gas campaigns are not being paid for by the British Gas Corporation but by independent companies. And, when the Gas Central Heating Group announced its campaign last month it laid great emphasis on the fact that the campaign was being aimed "solely at neutralizing the misleading claims made by the Electricity Council and the Regional Electricity Boards".

It said: "The members of the GCHG, who are all private enterprise companies, now find themselves in the invidious situation of having to spend a vastly increased amount of money to counter the misleading propaganda of a nationalized industry."

Even the Electricity Council's expenditure is not all public

money. For the past three years, many of the council's advertising campaigns, including much of the storage heater and Economy 7 advertising, have been jointly financed by the council and the heating manu-

The ASA is in no position to dispel the confusion

facturers, though no figures are given of the split between the two partners.

On a more general front, the Government is reported to be concerned about the implications of heavy advertising expenditure by the two energy industries.

Last year, the Electricity Council is recorded as having spent £19.6m on advertising, making it Britain's eighth biggest advertiser, according to Media Expenditure Analysis (MEAL). If the regional electricity boards are included, the figure rises to £23.9m.

The British Gas Corporation spent £14.7m on advertising last year, says MEAL. However, the corporation has spent nothing specifically on heating advertising for three years, which is why the two groups of manufacturers started their own generic campaigns to counter the electricity industry's advertising. Ironically, in the midst of the row, the Gas Corporation is about to start its own campaign on the benefits of gas wall heaters.

The situation has been further complicated by the premature departure from the Electricity Council of Mr John Rose, the council's head of trading and communications, who was responsible for the introduction three years ago of the storage heater campaign, and in particular for the joint-financing arrangement between the council and manufacturers. He maintains that his early retirement has nothing to do with the row between the two industries but confirms he is seeking legal advice and looking for a new job.

The ASA is in no position to dispel the confusion of those who wrote to it. As its deputy director, Mr David Williamson, said: "We normally do not get inquiries like this. All we can say to them is we suggest they contact the showrooms of the two organizations and make up their own minds."

The gas industry maintains that the Electricity Council's advertising claims are based on unrealistic conditions, including a smaller than average house and above average levels of insulation.

The electricity industry's complaints about the present gas advertisements have resulted in a number of amendments, but most of these are relatively minor and appear in the body copy.

The ASA still stands by its acceptance of comparative advertising "in the interest of vigorous competition and public information". The advertisements, with all their conflicting claims, ultimately, after amendment, have the ASA's seal of approval. According to Mr Williamson: "We're in the hands of the experts. The statistics have come from a variety of sources and they do not always agree."

"What we have to do is make sure that comparisons are fair, so that the reader is able to evaluate them and is not misled."

Whitehall notebooks

Big guns silent as sell-off plan nears

In contrast to the ballyhoo surrounding the British Telecom issue, the Government's plan to introduce private capital into the nation's Royal Ordnance factories are being pursued in such a low key that observers might be forgiven for thinking that ministers are losing interest in the idea.

The plan to legislate for the transfer of the factories to Companies Act status en route to eventual privatization was announced in the Queen's Speech in June, but since then there has been little but a deafening silence on the subject.

The legislation itself is expected to be introduced next month, when the Ministry of Defence - however reluctantly - will presumably provide a detailed justification and explanation of what it has in mind for its in-house manufacturer of bombs, tanks, bullets and rockets.

Consequences

Lazard's has been appointed to look at the options but the ministry and Mr Fred Clarke, the ex-IBM man bought in to mastermind the factories' change of status, are keeping steadfastly mum.

The civil service unions, which have good reason to fear the consequences of privatization, claim they have been equally unsuccessful in obtaining useful information about the Government's plans.

At a time when most other ministers are beating the drum for their pet privatization schemes, reflecting the renewed political imperative behind the policy, Mr Heseltine's reticence is rather surprising even allowing for the Ministry of Defence's traditional propensity for keeping its cards close to its chest.

But then it is clear that bringing the factories into the private sector is going to be a long and tortuous business, and one presenting a number of political and presentational problems.

Put at its simplest, the case for denationalizing the factories is much less clear-cut than for many other candidates on

the Government's list, while also raising important questions about the future control of armaments in this country. Financially, as last week's glossy report and accounts confirmed, the ordnance factories are in good health, with pre-tax profits of £66.8m on record sales of £449m.

The outlook for arms sales is all too evidently good, so well, both here and abroad, so the factories can reasonably look forward to continued growth in demand over the rest of the decade.

Despite the well-publicized collapse of Britain's lucrative arms trade with the Shah of Iran four years ago, the ordnance factories have been entirely self-financing since their establishment as a trading fund 10 years ago.

Nor is there any particular evidence that the factories are grossly inefficient, though some may yet materialize. The workforce at the 11 factories has been cut by 4,500 to 18,000 in the last five years, and value added per employee has doubled in the same period.

All of which has the makings of an attractive

package for a stock market flotation - on the surface at least. Opting for this route will need time, however. The factories are having to acquire their own sales and marketing force, for the first time, and are also taking on a research and development capability from other parts of the ministry.

The market will want to see how this works in practice for a year or two before the factories can be sold as a viable concern. In addition, Mr Heseltine faces the now familiar problem of what to do about the full civil service pension rights of the 18,000 employees, meeting which will inevitably take a sizable chunk out of the Government's gross proceeds from the issue. These have been provisionally estimated at £300m to £400m.

Objection

The obvious quicker alternative is for the Government to sell off the factories piecemeal to other arms manufacturers, as was mooted in 1981. While there would be no shortage of buyers for the best factories such as the small arms plant at Enfield, there is little prospect that buyers could be found for all the plants.

A fundamental objection is that the Government would be hard pressed to argue that selling off the factories to the private sector represented an increase in competition, or even necessarily of efficiency.

Most observers still believe that the Government will eventually opt for the flotation route, even though some even more exotic ideas such as combining the factories with the warship yards of British Shipbuilders have also been aired.

The continuing official silence on the subject has hardly helped remove the suspicion however that the Government is only beginning to think through the implications of what it is boldly promising in its post-election euphoria.

Jonathan Davis

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORIES

	Sales	Surplus before interest	Dividend to Govt	Surplus % of funds employed	Value added per employee
78/79	£m	£m	£m		£
79/80	284	31	11	26	5,500
80/81	277	12	10	12	5,500
81/82	280	-6	6	1	7,500
82/83	349	9	9	9	9,250
	448	62	25	38	13,280

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The sparkling new Octopus puts Britain in front

THE WEEK

Clive Cookson

The release of excellent financial results and a sparkling new microcomputer on consecutive days last week should establish CPU Computers' reputation as one of the leading British-owned companies in the industry.

CPU's turnover for the year ended June 30 1983 doubled to £19.2m and pre-tax profits jumped by 56 per cent to £1.43m, beating the £1.35m forecast when the company went public in June.

The new Octopus micro looks like an exceptional small business computer but it claims a range of flexibility unsurpassed by any competitor.

The smallest manifestation is a £1,530 portable business micro which can use any television set as its screen. The largest single configuration does the work of a 16-bit microcomputer with up to six satellite terminals and connection to other Octopuses through an Arc network.

The company's microcomputer division - confusingly named LSI rather than CPU - offers a huge range of differently shaped Octopuses for use with different requirements. Data storage options start with a single 400Kb floppy disk drive and

expand a hundredfold to 40Mb Winchester drives. Even the keyboard has several variants, including LSI's own design with 109 keys and an IBM-style board (88 keys).

All Octopuses have both 8-bit and 16-bit processors, so users can choose from the huge range of established 8-bit software and the new 16-bit applications. This dual-processor approach was in vogue for a while last year - LSI's previous model, the M-4, adopted it - but most of this year's business micro have taken an uncompromising 16-bit stand.

However CPU's joint managing director David Johns insists that the additional manufacturing and design costs of dual processors are justified. "There still isn't much good 16-bit software," he says, "and a lot of what there is isn't as fast as the 8-bit." Octopus selects the correct processor automatically according to the applications presented, without the user having to make any decision.

LSI is currently assembling 200 Octopuses a month at its factory beside the company headquarters in Woking, Surrey.

It expects to reach 500 a month in the first quarter of next year and should have the capacity for 1,000 a month by the summer, though the actual production rate will depend, of course, on Octopus's sales success. (Firms in Wales and Devon manufacture the printed circuit boards under subcontract.)

"The British are good at designing excellent systems but then all too often fall down by not marketing them adequately, allowing the competition to catch up and steal the market," Mr Johns says. To protect Octopus from that fate, LSI has planned what is, for a company of its size, a huge advertising campaign costing several hundred thousand pounds. Octopus ads start running on TV South at the end of this month and go nationwide during the winter.

Distributors are lined up in France and Germany to handle Octopus exports to Europe. (CPU has its own German subsidiary, Synetec.) But Mr Johns is not tempted by the huge American market. "That would be sending coals to Newcastle," he said. "The Americans don't like buying foreign computers."

Bring in the mavericks

JOB SCENE

Richard Sharpe



Vicky Carne

Computer booking

A fresh breeze of realism is blowing through the publishing world, and most companies have either added computer-based titles to their lists or are publishing software in tandem with books, writes Geoff Ellis.

A newcomer is Mosaic Publishing, whose managing director Vicky Carne has a conventional publishing background, coming from Sir Clive Sinclair's computer publishing house, Sinclair Bros, where she was its marketing manager.

She started Mosaic to offer the reader a new concept: a book-cassette package that allows interaction with reader and author.

The first titles, due out in January, will be a sci-fi based adventure *Unorthodox Engineers* by Colin Kapp, a version of the best-selling Puffin book, *My Secret File*, which will offer children a ready-made personal data base, and an version of *Treasure Island*, where, presumably, one should be able to work a variety of permutations with Blind Pew, Long John Silver and Jim Hawkins.

The best-selling US sci-fi author Harry Harrison, known for his *Star Wars* books, is busy working in conjunction with a programmer to create a new series based on his books.

Melbourne House, another name associated with computer publishing, started life in 1977 with conventional books, but entered the computer field in 1980 when managing director Fred Milgrom rushed through a book by Tim Hartnell for the owners of the Sinclair ZX80, the forerunner of today's micros. Since then they have increased their computer titles and moved into games software.

Their biggest seller, *The Hobbit*, took 18 months to perfect, and their forthcoming *Sherlock Holmes* adventure, more than a year. His policy of looking for quality rather than quantity, means that Melbourne's list of software contains rather more best sellers than those of less selective publishers.

The business of software publishing is now seeing a great shaking out, as small cottage industry operations are bought up by larger companies, but with the strength of experience in the traditional publishing field behind them, the new book/software firms seem set for success.

Finding the right job in the computer industry is not easy, but getting the wrong advice about finding a job in computer personnel have an obsession which leads to them trying to reduce all of their activities into a form that could be understood by a computer.

When they were popular as an aid to program design the flowchart became a semi serious way of describing human action. Now that technicians and forms predominates we did not have to wait long for someone to describe the method of searching for and getting a job by using these techniques.

Rodney Beaven has researched and written the latest contribution to the volumes of information on how to search for and get an executive job.

From early next month, *Effective Job Search* (Task Master Management Systems Limited, £6.75) will be available. In it are useful hints on how to present for a job, but packaged with this are a number of approaches, including forms for applicants to keep, that are more than suspect.

Standard letters are covered in the book, letters which guide those looking for a job into the best position. The author also adds advice on accepting the role of a technical or managerial person.

Essentially, Beaven says, you have to sell yourself and you should recognise that your potential employer is looking for a service from you.

But should you also sell your

Christmas card list? I only ask because one of the several forms which Beaven has designed to grace his book includes one headed 'Personal Contact History'. On this form job seekers are advised to list those who are on their Christmas card list as a contact to help them out in their quest.

Some of the other proposed methods of getting a job and forms that could be used to ensure that the candidate went to the bottom of most lists because he was more interested in the form of things than the substance.

The most unlikely people get jobs, hold them and make sizable contributions to the collective effort of their employers.

Unless the prospective employer can use effectively the necessary imagination to find out the qualities which could never be captured on a form then the only people to be employed will be those who fit into stereotypes.

While the UK computer industry needs plenty of people who would jump at the chance to fill in lengthy forms, its greatest need is for the imaginative maverick who can think beyond the solution found by common sense.

Common sense could not have come up with the Sinclair

ZX80 range of hand-held computers, the shining example in Britain of innovative engineering and packaging.

Sir Clive Sinclair is getting a lot of attention precisely because Britain lacks a group of successful pioneers in the information technology industry.



People/Richard Lee of CTEC

A class of his own

Clerkenwell Road is not a part of London that most people would associate with high technology, but over the past few years some of Britain's top companies have been beating a path to Richard Lee's door. The attraction is simple: Lee offers training courses for people who want to use a microcomputer.

With the boom of the micro, the potential market is vast. "Our customer base runs from small or medium-sized businesses, right up to multinationals and government departments," Lee comments. "And practically the whole company may need microcomputer training of some sort, from the storeman to the managing director."

Richard Lee spotted the opportunity in 1980, and set up CTEC (Computer Training and Education Centre) to meet the expected demand. Courses range widely, covering both hardware and software, but all have a high practical content. They can last from one day to five days, and are held either in CTEC's own lecture rooms or on clients' premises.

"We find it is very important that people get on the machine as quickly as possible," Lee says. "There's a one-to-one machine/student ratio, so they all get hands-on experience. At the end of our one-day introductory course, everyone will have written a simple program in Basic."

Lee's involvement in training came relatively late in his career. He began as a clerk with NatWest 18 years ago, just when the bank was starting to link its branches to a computer network. "I showed an interest,

and was drafted into the computing department", he recalls.

It was after he had moved to British Airways' technical support group, handling both hardware and software, that he became interested in training. "With training, a company gets a better employee, and the employee gets a lot more job satisfaction," he believes.

He worked for a while as a freelance lecturer, then started CTEC. "Obviously there's a need for training on the mainframe side," he says. "With the upsurge in micros I could see there would be a similar requirement, but for a different market area."

In fact the market has proved to be far bigger and more complex than he probably imagined. As well as beginners, he has found that data-processing professionals trained on mainframes come along to gain familiarity with micros.

The proliferation of software packages, and the shift from 8-bit to 16-bit machines, has also created a need for continuing training.

In addition, CTEC provides training for the Manpower Services Commission, and is running a 48-week pilot course for 40 school-leavers under the Youth Training Scheme.

But some of the most fruitful prospects result directly from the microcomputer price war. "Dealers are not giving away training as part of the sales package any more," Lee explains. "As a training organization, we are finding that a lot of dealers are now putting their clients in touch with us."

Roger Woolnough

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STW/10

Alison and Andrew are today's winners

A 14-year-old girl and a boy aged 15 are the winners of *The Times* Classroom Computer competition. They are Alison Dally of Worle School, Mead Vale, Weston-super-Mare, and Andrew McIntosh of Annan Academy, Dumfries, Scotland. The winning decision was made by a tie-breaking question.

The answers to the third competition were (1) B; (2) B; (3) C; (4) A; (5) B.

The winners will both receive an Atari 600XL computer for their schools, as well as a personal gift of the *Times Atlas* of

World History. The eight runners-up are: Rosina Morrison, Falkland CP School, Newbury, Berks; Daren Humphrey, Roundwood Park School, Harpenden, Herts; Rachel Battersby, St Albans School, Oldham; Bryan Childs, Burnt Ash Junior School, Bromley, Kent; Christine Gallagher, St Andrews High School, Kirkcaldy, Fife; Ross Smith, Forrester High School, Edinburgh; Jeffrey Jones, Llanfair Cae-nion High School, Powys; Fiona Jeffrey-Look, Croydon High School. Each receives a *Times Atlas*.

Alison Dally (14) of Worle School, Weston-super-Mare, is hoping to acquire a home computer to share with her younger brother, who is also a pupil at her school. She started computer studies this September, and is enjoying the course. She is starting to write simple programs and spends some of her lunch breaks in the school computer club.

Miss T. Keen, Alison's computer teacher, says that in the school club there has been an interesting move away from writing and playing games to more serious applications and programming.

Andrew McIntosh (15) of Annan Academy will be starting computer studies for the first time this week upon his return from half term. Hitherto, his school used computers only in

the Maths department, but will now have the services of a new computer teacher, who will use the computer room, equipped with ten new BBC machines. Andrew has a Sinclair Spectrum

at home, which he has been using since last Christmas. Using the new computer room, he would like to explore the possibilities of a computer career.



Classroom Computer competition

Here is the sixth of our 12 weekly Classroom Computer competitions for young people up to 18 years old. There are two age groups - up to 15 and 15 to 18 inclusive. Entries are individual efforts but because we are keen that schools should become involved, the main prize - two Atari 600XL computers a week, one for each age group - will be presented to the school of the winner's choice. In addition 10 copies of *The Times Atlas* of World History, five in each age group, will be awarded each week to individual entrants, including the winners of the school computers.

The competition is simple to enter. Cut out the entry form each week and collect the entry tokens from the back page of *The Times* (you will find it at the foot of *The*

Times Information Service) on the five following publication days - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday - and stick them on the form. Those who entered last week should be sure that entries are posted to arrive by first post Friday.

Today and every week of the competition there will be five questions on computers to answer with a different theme each week. These will not require the use of a computer but may require a certain amount of research. All the answers are to be found in works of reference readily available to young people. There is a tie-breaking question to answer which will test the ingenuity and imagination of contestants and enable the panel of judges to decide the winners. Every week is a new contest, so missing one will not spoil your chances.

Judging

1. The prizes will be divided and awarded equally between the two age groups - up to 15 years and 15-18 years as at date of entry.

2. Those entries with all factual questions answered correctly will be judged first. The entry which in the opinion of the judges gives the most apt and imaginative answer to the tie-breaker question will win a Computer for the School or College nominated, and a personal prize of an Atlas.

3. Other entries with all correct answers and judged to have submitted the next 8 best answers to the tie-breaker will win a personal prize of an Atlas.

4. Those entries with less than all correct answers will be judged in order, in the event that not enough all-correct entries qualify.

5. If identical entries are judged to have won, the entrants may be asked to submit to a further similar competition.

Rules

1. All entries must be made via the official entry form as printed in *The Times*. No photocopies will be accepted. Several entries from the same school may be posted together.

2. Each individual entry must be accompanied by the required number of computer symbols as printed in *The Times* relevant to that week's competition.

3. All entries must be made clearly in ink, facsimile, illegible, spilt or late entries will be rejected as will those without a nomination.

4. You must be under 19 years of age and be a full-time student of the school or college nominated at the time of entry.

5. Names of all winners will be published in *The Times*, not later than 2 weeks after closing date. All entries become the sole property and copyright of *The Times*. Prizes will be despatched to the School.

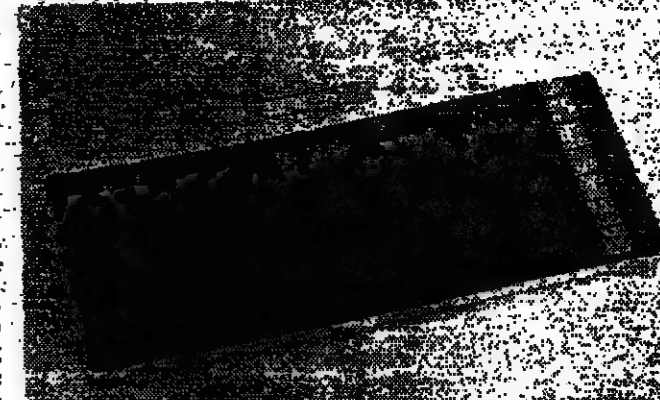
6. No individual may win more than once in any one weekly competition.

7. Proof of posting is not acceptable as proof of entry.

8. The decision of the panel of Judges appointed by the Editor is final on all matters connected with the competition. No correspondence at any stage of the competition will be entered into.

9. Employees and their families of *Times Newspapers Ltd.*, its associated companies or anyone connected with the operation of this competition are not eligible.

10. All entrants will be deemed to have agreed to abide by the rules of which all instructions form part.



● The ATARI 600XL computer has a 16k RAM memory, expandable to 64k with a memory module. 24k ROM and software compatibility with other ATARI home computers.

● The *Times Atlas* of World History has 360 pages containing 600 new maps and 300,000 words of narrative in the context of the places where it happened.

COMPETITION No 6

History

Study the 5 questions below carefully and select your answer from the choices given. In each case write *only* the appropriate code letter into the answer box. Remember to complete the tie-breaker and all other parts of this entry form in accordance with the rules - and to attach 5 entry symbols.

Closing date for entries - 1st post Friday, October 28.

- When did Pascal invent his calculating machine?
A 1642
B 1715
C 1812
- When was the spiral slide rule invented?
A 1561
B 1660
C 1782
- What year did Babbage conceive his analytical engine?
A 1795
B 1833
C 1906
- When did Colossus run?
A 1881
B 1943
C 1983
- In which year did Atari produce the world's first video game?
A 1967
B 1972
C 1975

Tie-breaker

In fewer than twenty words explain why Babbage's original ideas are important to today's computer users.

FULL NAME _____ AGE _____

SCHOOL/COLLEGE _____

SCHOOL/COLLEGE ADDRESS _____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE _____

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In their various ways the telex machine, the computer, the computer terminal and the word processor are probably all contributing to the efficiency of your company.

Of course each machine has its limitations, but that's quite normal.

But just suppose for a moment that those limitations were removed.



information from one place to another.

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Not content with that feat, picture it going on to despatch three copies of a report to Manchester before consulting a database in New York.

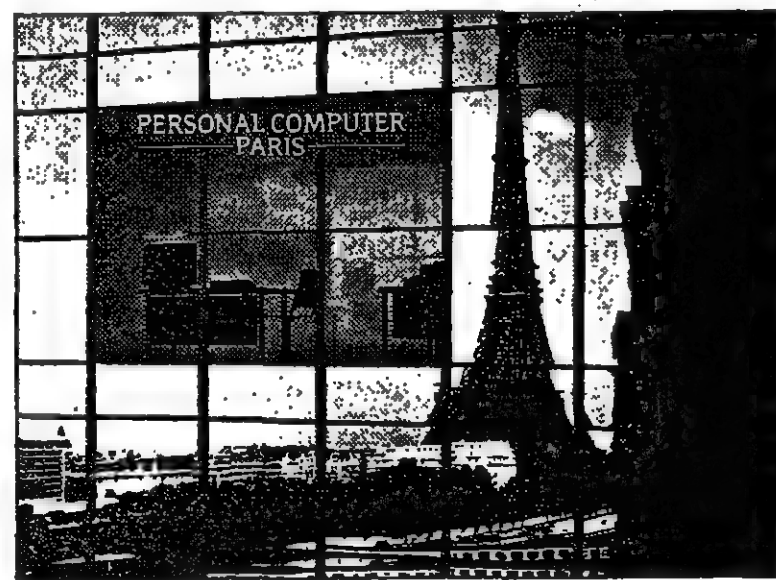
Then imagine it circulating your European managers with a memo and giving you an urgent message from your Hong Kong office before returning to its normal tasks.

Next, stretch your imagination a little further and think of the increase in efficiency if every computer, terminal and word processor in your company were given that flexibility.

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My sunshine love affair with a magic writing machine

By Richard North

I never hoped for much from hi-tech, and three years ago would never have imagined the difference it could make to my own hammerings at the word-fence.

The desk-top machine - mine is a Philips 2000, a civilized, literate machine which makes no demands on my pre-tech mind - is one thing, and I have bashed out books after book on it, most especially loving the way I can fiddle and edit and change and rearrange and send out drafts and print up copies as though a fleet of silent, dedicated, unpaid, all-night secretaries and clerks were at my beck and call.

But I have become spoiled, and thought that the old wallow and whack of the typewriter should be banished from my life altogether. I wanted word-processing on the wing. Enter the Epson HX-20.

I can only say I love it. It will store words (on a microcassette whose drive can be a touch temperamental until you have badgered your dealer for a top notch one); it will print words (on its own dinky little printer); and it will hold words in that wonderful state of suspension in which they can be added-to, or deleted, at will and whim.

It has not the extraordinary flexibility of the desk-top, but the latest word processing programme devised by Derek Bowers, a software entrepreneur, is pretty darned subtle for all that.

It was one thing to sling the toy over my shoulder for forays in this country (it is lighter than a portable typewriter, in spite of having so many more jobs to do). Quite another to take it on a publisher's visit to a book on Patrick Lichfield photographing the Unipart calendar for 1984 with a team of beautiful girls. What toil would the Epson stand up to?

Would man and machine work in the hot, hot sun? Would they short-circuit if champagne was sprayed around? Would they work if grains of sand worked into keyboards?

Everything went beautifully. Each day, after breakfast under



Richard North on Ibiza with his Epson word processor

the canopy on the terrace, I would type up something resembling a diary entry, and then rework it a bit (after a siesta, mind) then file it on the memory tape. Then print it up, so as to have an old-fashioned written record of what I'd done. (It is a mark of the way we authors, ma'am, must think ahead, that the printouts were stored in waterproof sachets - your racier models have an alarming habit of throwing journalists into swimming pools.)

As it stands, the Epson handles blocks of words of up to about 500 words in length, and does so in the most simple and intuitively-sensible way. It prints out the "address" of any blocks of words filed on the memory, and has search modes in case you lose your printed records. Its liquid crystal display of four lines is perfectly adequate, once you've got the hang of it (and the scrolling is arranged intelligently).

However, the real joy - and any challenge you come across should be able to answer these criteria - is in using it that you can write, edit, store and print all on one machine.

For instance, though I've loved using the Microwriter (the latter-day stenography machine), it really would need a plug-in printer and memory cassette handy to be halfway complete as a system.

I can see the Microwriter having marvellous applications for people who either need to work with one hand and write with another (Dr Quincy and his corpse would find it useful), or can regularly connect up with bigger machines; neither con-

dition applies to this one on the road.

With the addition of an expansion box, the HX's memory quota rockets: a friend is using mine to write a book and is handling word-blocks of up to two thousand words (though, beware, the machine did once seize up and lose a thousand words: it's best to file onto the memory tape, or print-out, quite often for safety, therefore).

Epson sell various devices for connecting outlying HXs to a central machine, and at least one magazine gives them to its writers to file copy direct from the field. I don't aspire to that, enough to sit in a train or hotel room and be able to work more or less as I do at home. At a pinch I could send publishers the machine's own roll-wide printout. More usually, I come home and give them the electric typewriter-quality of the daisy wheel printer.

And of course, I do not often expect to be working in conditions so arduous as those I found on Ibiza. I mean to say, it is frightfully difficult to work a computer when one's fingers are slippery with sun tan lotion.

And the little urchins in the workman's cafe - the Fonda - where I lunched sometimes would delightfully hold up the nonsense I was writing and practise their English and their information technology on the gringo's exquisite gadget. They loved it, too.

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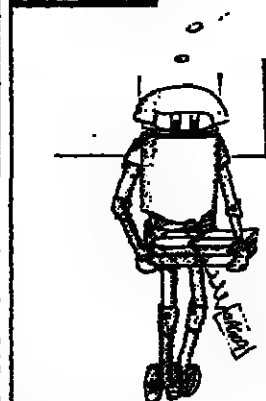
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Micros in TV space show

A new television series, aimed at unravelling the mysteries of the micro, is being launched on November 9 by Central TV. Its presenters will be Adrian Hedley, who plays the part of captain of a space ship, from which, orbiting the earth, some 5,000 light years away, the programme is transmitted, and Jo Wheeler as his plucky young assistant.

There will be a panel of children to road-test the latest in computer games, and a resident "egg head"

AGIS



Power, and the Fifth generation

Concluding Rex Malik's second article on the 5G.

The Fifth Generation is not more of the same only faster and cheaper, though both characteristics have to be present. It is different Systems creation in the past has generally been hardware bound. The hardware has been where designers have begun, after which the software is devised to make it run.

Traditionally, the software system comes in two parts. There is the operating software and operating system, a compiler etc. which enable the raw machine to operate and the applications software which enables the computer to perform tasks for users.

We measure the power of systems and their ability in the number of instructions they can execute in given time, usually a second. 5G will not however be measured in this way but instead in logical inference.

To come to an intelligent conclusion could take thousands of such steps, and calculations have shown that an inferential step can take anything from 100 to 1,000 instructions. So systems capable of displaying intelligence are likely by today's standards to be extremely powerful. Which reinforces the need to get away from existing architectures.

Indeed, to achieve what the Japanese wish may well require that the basic machine, measured in today's power terms, could be ten to one hundred - if not more - times as powerful as the largest systems now in use.

And what is worth remembering is that such a machine could only be manufactured out of VLSI, the internal speed requirement to make anything useful happen requires this to be so. Yet it is the essence of VLSI that the majority of the costs involved lie in the creation of the first one. From then on the costs of manufacture are relatively trivial.

We are then discussing machines that probably stand on desks, can be easily carried around, and before the year 2000 will be available in millions.

Getting over the hazards

Next week's Maritimen exhibition in Hamburg sees the launch of the first phase of a British computer system upon which lives may depend in the future. Like the exhibition, the EXIS database is concerned with the transportation of chemicals and other hazardous materials. When complete, in about eight years time, the database may well become the definitive European source of information about chemical properties, the regulations governing transportation, and emergency procedures in the event of accidents or leakage, writes Adele McLenahan.

EXIS is the brainchild of Ken Burgess, managing director of Expert Information Systems (hence the name EXIS), who is also joint publisher of a monthly magazine called Hazardous Cargo Bulletin. As publisher, he found that many of the smaller freight and haulage companies turned to his for "information" about regulations, indicating a need for a central resource available to both public and private sectors.

Mr Burgess presented his ideas to the Software Products committee and received a grant of £25,000 from the Department of Industry to cover an estimated 26 per cent of development costs. He has since applied for further funding under the Support for Innovation scheme announced in June.

The major shareholder in the enterprise, is Whessex Technical & Computing Services in Darlington, which is supplying both finance and computing resources. Part of the Whessex Engineering group, WTCS has spent three years developing EXIS programs on its in-house Digital equipment 2660 machine, with a 200 machine set back-up.

The IMO module holds the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code for transport of cargoes by sea, and EXIS users will be able to check details such as the correct type of container for a particular substance, methods of stowage and any limitations on quantity. In addition to the Code, EXIS also offers emergency advice on mopping up operations and on the treatment of any casualties.

EXIS offers six alternative commonly-used names or synonyms for each substance which may be fed into the system via an easy to use menu interface, to extract appropriate data. Further modules are to be added approximately every six months, and will be a mixture of in-house developments and existing data bases from other organisations. The first will be the Chemdata system developed by the National Chemical Emergency Centre at Harwell, which is now used by the fire-brigade for land-based emergency response information.

The Civil Aviation Authority's International Air Transport regulations database is due to be linked into EXIS in 1984, followed by the ADR/RID European Road & Rail regulations, and the National and Local regulations, including ports. Although EXIS has been set up as a private concern, the database is likely to be widely used by public emergency services as well as road hauliers, packaging manufacturers and tank containers operators, who would all subscribe privately. For this reason, Mr Burgess is anxious to keep charges low and anticipates a typical fee of around 80 pence for accessing information on one substance.

The IBS exhibition opening in Birmingham today offers the first official view of two new micros. Sharp will be showing their new portable, the PC5000. A 16 bit machine with 128K of RAM memory, it will offer the user a built in modem, and a large fold down screen. Triumph Adler will be unveiling their Personal Computer selling at around £350.

Employees of Micro Focus will soon be among the best equipped in the country. With the opening of their 25,000 square foot offices in Newbury, the company has announced that by the middle of next year they will have installed 150 IBM XT personal computers for their staff. This will allow them to have desk top electronic mail facilities, using 14 kilometres of coaxial cable laid in the building.

Thom EMI Video, better known for its cartridge-based games for the VIC-20, Atari and Texas Instruments, next month launches a new clutch of cassette games for users of the Sinclair Spectrum.

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The company has been established for five years and employs 35 full time staff of whom about 20 are post-doctoral. Work is carried out on long-term contracts from industry or government, on problems requiring fundamental research rather than mere application of existing techniques. This has included mathematical modelling, active control of sound and vibration, the construction of compilers and operating systems and the design of micro computer systems. We have close links with university researchers, publication of results is encouraged and we encourage contact with other centres of excellence.

The successful candidate will be expected to spend a considerable amount of time working with our clients, who are located on the south coast.

Salary is negotiable, but generous, with pension and profit sharing schemes. Please apply with cv and the names of two referees.

Busy days ahead for the ex-City man

By Geoff Ellis

Retirement means many things to many people. For Robert Bousfield, after a varied career in the discount market, it meant the chance to start his own micro-based consultancy business.

Planning well before retirement, he realised the potential of operating such a business, and prompted by the publicity in his professional journals for such systems, he started operations under the name Delabere when he left his City company in August.

After researching the hardware and software markets, Mr Bousfield (seen right) settled on a North Star Advantage, running a nominal ledger package from Peachtree, which gives him all the transaction files he needs. Although he is a chartered accountant, he has spent all of his career in finance and commerce rather than practice, so he does not plan to include any audit work.

He believes that the market for such a service is vast. So far there are about 95,000 small



businesses with their own microcomputers, but that figure represents only 50 per cent of companies with 50 or fewer employees. The average boss does not want to be bothered with operating his or her own

accounting system and this is the slot, he feels, that he and similar companies could fill.

After selecting his system he installed it at his home in the Kent village of Marden and signed up his first client.

He operates a system designed around a set of specially designed input forms which are filled out by the clients during the normal course of the company. Later the forms are entered into the computer and produces monthly management reports and accounts.

A stock control service can easily be added by incorporating a suitable database package. He originally thought that a company would be attracted to his services by the offer of the very latest in technology, but he found the very opposite to be the case. Most people who run small businesses are still wary of new technology. He is managing to break down this reluctance by personal recommendation, and seems set to have a particularly active retirement.

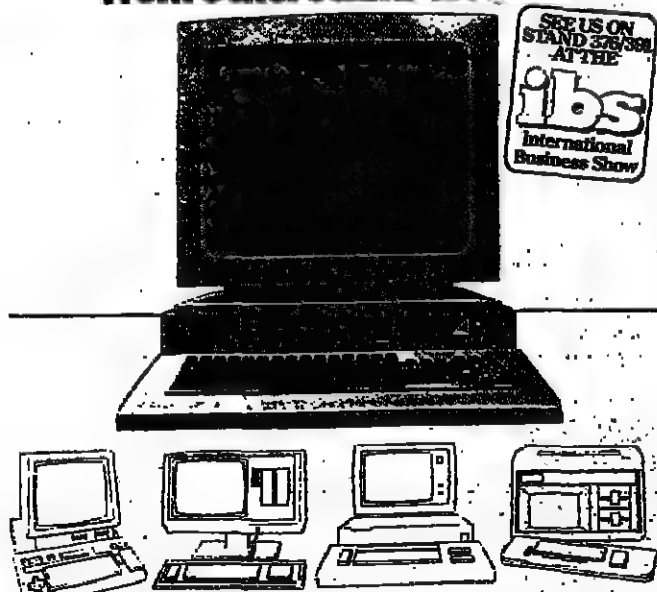
From the cube to the micro

Patrick Boseret, the 13-year-old who wrote the best-selling book, *You Can Do The Cube*, which sold more than 1½ million copies to frustrated Rubik's cube owners, has turned his attention to microcomputers, writes Geoffrey Ellis.

He has just written, with Philip Dickinson, a new Puffin book, *Micro Games*, which contains 13 computer games for use with the BBC Spectrum, ZX81 and RML micros.

Explaining the listings step by step, it also adds programming tips to change the levels of play.

What makes the Diamond stand out from other stand-alones?



No word processor matches the versatility of the Diamond, nor adapts more readily to your specific needs. With its fully integrated word and data processing software it will edit texts, process words and figures, sort and maintain records, bring management information direct to your desk. And that's just the beginning.

The Diamond is the word processing system that is different. With its distinctive screen you can actually display whatever you want to print out. Only with the Diamond can you view both full A4 portrait and landscape documents, with its unique ability to select the screen's size and shape to suit the particular job in hand.

With OPM the Diamond Information Processor can assume a variety of roles to suit a host of specific needs; it can be a word processor, an accounting system and a general purpose business computer.

The Diamond was designed and built in Britain especially for British business. That means a simple to use system that can solve complex problems. Contact us at the address below and we will show you just what we mean.

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Birmingham (021) 455 6568. Glasgow (041) 332 4299. Harrogate (0423) 509738. Bristol (0272) 240465.

UK Events

International Business Show, NEC, Birmingham, October 18-20
Microcomputer of the Word Processor, Maccabey Hotel, Manchester, October 21
Computer Open Day Exhibition, Park Hotel, Cardiff, October 27
Lancaster, October 29
Brainwave (Home Computing, video & Electronics Family Show), NEC, Birmingham, November 4-6
Software Expo, Wembley Conference Centre, London, November 8-10
Home Computer Exhibition, Dublin, November 8-13
Malvern Micro Fair, Malvern Winter Gardens, Worcs, November 12
Manchester Apple Village, Belle Vue, Manchester, November 18-19
COMPEC, London Olympia, November 15-18
Humbly Grove Computer Fair, Winter Gardens, Cleethorpe, November 20
Northern Computer Fair, Belle Vue, Manchester, November 24-26

Overseas Events

Computer Technology Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 18-21
Asian Personal Computer Hardware & Software Show, Hong Kong, October 19-22
COMDEX Europe, Amsterdam, October 24-27
Computer Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, October 25-28
Gulf Computer Exhibition, Dubai, November 21-24

Compiled by Personal Computer News.

EUROPEAN SUPPORT MANAGER

BASED LONDON SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS

Our client, an internationally respected manufacturer of sophisticated state of the art computing and electronic products, is seeking a top flight support executive to manage their INTERNATIONAL SOFTWARE AND APPLICATIONS SUPPORT Function.

The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of IBM systems, with specific experience of supporting SOFTWARE AND APPLICATIONS in the following environment:

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The following knowledge would be a definite advantage, but not essential. IBM Comms Protocols, eg 2770/3770/3780, IBM Composition Software eg DCF, AIMS II, Script, Printers, eg 3800, 3211 etc.

Helpful experience would also include CAD/CAM, Plotters, plus a foreign language.

The successful candidate will have a significant effect on determining the Company's software and applications strategy and must therefore be able to converse with, train and offer expert advice to Senior Management of both our client and their customers throughout Europe.

In return there will be offered an extremely attractive package, including basic salary of around £18,000 pa (although this figure is negotiable for the right candidate), car, expenses, BUPA, Life Assurance, Pension, etc.

If you really believe you have the experience for this exciting and unusual career opportunity, please speak with Dean Williams today 10.30-5.30 or evenings 7.30-10.30 on 0225 378182 or during working hours on 0582 499933. Alternatively post your CV for my attention. All applications will be treated in strict confidence and will receive immediate attention.

I look forward to hearing from you.

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A unique opportunity has arisen to head up the product development department of one of the country's leading micro-computer companies, with responsibility for pioneering sophisticated hardware and software developments in the fields of industry, science and commerce.

Our clients wish to appoint an experienced State of the Art R and D Manager who will report to the technical director, and be capable of deputising for him. He will have responsibility for the management of all new product developments in the company, taking them from concept through all stages of specification, design, prototype and pre-production into full manufacturing.

With a multi-million pound budget, this challenging position requires outstanding abilities to motivate staff and achieve targets in an environment of very rapid technical innovation.

Candidates with a strong science background, must have a successful track record of R and D-management in the computer industry. They must combine a tough business approach with the ability to motivate and lead a professional team of around 80 staff to the successful conclusion of viable commercial projects on the frontiers of micro-computer technology.

The salary offered and excellent range of benefits, including relocation where appropriate, will reflect the importance of this position.

Please telephone or write in strict confidence, quoting CN/109/ST to:-

Albert Binns, Clive Newton and Partners,
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RACING: PIGGOTT NARROWS TITLE GAP/WRONG WINNER GIVEN AT FONTWELL PARK

Market justifies valuation of Shareef Dancer

By Michael Seely

The underlying strength of the bloodstock market has been shown by the results of the October Open Yearling Sales which ended at 11.45 pm on Sunday. Aggregate sales of yearlings were valued at an average of 12.5 guineas. The average increased to 12.5 guineas from 12.2 guineas in the previous year. The average increase of 12.5 guineas is a very significant increase, especially for the better horses. Unfortunately, too many nice physical specimens had weak pedigrees.

George Blackwell, the bloodstock agent, is noted as a sound judge. He bought Nonaal, the winner of the 1974 2,000 Guineas for \$300,000 and the 1980 yearling, the 1980 yearling, for only \$24,000. "Until recently, I have been able to be pretty accurate about a yearling's worth," he said. "But not nowadays. It is now so hard to value a yearling at £100,000. And I'm not talking about the top-priced lots either."

As the yearling prices increased, the value of stallions, nominations continued to rise. The yearling of Northern Dancer, the winner of the 1977 Kentucky Derby, was sold for \$1,000,000. The yearling of Northern Dancer, the winner of the 1977 Kentucky Derby, was sold for \$1,000,000. The yearling of Northern Dancer, the winner of the 1977 Kentucky Derby, was sold for \$1,000,000.

Sandown Park

Draw Double 3.0, 4.5, 2.35, 3.35, 4.35
Draw advantage: low numbers best
2.0 HEATHER STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,825; 5f) (16 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Sedgefield

2.0 GRINDON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (selling: £425; 2m) (7 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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109 109 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Leicester

Draw no advantage
2.15 SOAR STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,035; 7f) (18 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Hamilton Park

Draw advantage: middle and high numbers best
2.15 BIRNIE STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £225; 5f) (5 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
103 103 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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Fontwell results

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Sandown selections

2.0 Swift Return. 2.30 Forest of Dean. 3.35 Axtelshire. 4.5 Wurdind. 4.35 Fleeing Knight.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Brigomide. 2.30 Starwind. 3.0 St. Pedro. 3.35 One O'Clock Jump. 4.5 Native Spell. 4.35 Feels Right.

Hamilton results

2.15 BLACKWOOD STAKES (selling: £1,041; 1m 30) (5 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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Rise and fall: Donaghmore's rider, Karl Byrne, is brought down to earth at Fontwell

"I only got there an hour before the race," Swinburn said. "My Concorde flight was two hours late leaving Heathrow, due to engine trouble. Although the ground was soft, Al Along was in great style. Hopefully, I'll go back there to ride her again in the Turf Classic at Ascot and then in the Washington International at Laurel Park. These three races are ranked as the American autumn triple crown and Americans will collect a \$1m bonus if she wins the next two as well. Swinburn arrived back at Fontwell at 7.30 yesterday morning and after four hours sleep drove to Newmarket where both his mounts, Troia Valles and Island Mill, finished unplaced. Piggott, however, had a magnificent afternoon when landing a treble for Henry Cecil on Ophrys, Immorato and Elzevir. Piggott is now 12 behind Willie Carson in the race for the jockey title and although Carson's 12-day suspension does not end until next Monday, Piggott still faces an uphill struggle with only 16 days left before the end of the season."

The result of the fifth race at Fontwell Park yesterday, the Donaghmore Handicap, was officially altered in amazing circumstances nearly half an hour after the last event. Morton the Hatter was the original declared winner, and all bets will be settled on this 2-1 chance. But nearly an hour later, the judge, Graham Wynne successfully sought the stewards' permission to change the winner to Glamour Show, the 11-10 favourite.

Morton the Hatter and Glamour Show had fought a desperate battle over the last three furlongs. Glamour Show got the upper hand on the run, but Morton the Hatter called the stewards' attention to the fact that he had made a mistake, and under rule 26 (1) confirmed that Glamour Show was first and Morton the Hatter second.

There was a further twist when Morton the Hatter's rider, Gary Moore, died only a few minutes after the race. He was a 21-year-old amateur and was a member of the club. He was a 21-year-old amateur and was a member of the club. He was a 21-year-old amateur and was a member of the club.

Judge alters result hour after race

Sedgefield

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Leicester

Draw no advantage
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Hamilton Park

Draw advantage: middle and high numbers best
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Fontwell results

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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Sedgefield

2.0 GRINDON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (selling: £425; 2m) (7 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
103 103 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Leicester

Draw no advantage
2.15 SOAR STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,035; 7f) (18 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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109 109 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Hamilton Park

Draw advantage: middle and high numbers best
2.15 BIRNIE STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £225; 5f) (5 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
103 103 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Fontwell results

2.0 GRINDON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (selling: £425; 2m) (7 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
103 103 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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109 109 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

Sandown selections

2.0 Swift Return. 2.30 Forest of Dean. 3.35 Axtelshire. 4.5 Wurdind. 4.35 Fleeing Knight.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Brigomide. 2.30 Starwind. 3.0 St. Pedro. 3.35 One O'Clock Jump. 4.5 Native Spell. 4.35 Feels Right.

Hamilton results

2.15 BLACKWOOD STAKES (selling: £1,041; 1m 30) (5 runners)
101 101 STYAN (A. Fozzard) W. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
102 102 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
103 103 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3
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110 110 DAZARAD (A. Fozzard) H. O'Donnell 9-0 J. Waldron 3

GOLF

Elusive prize draws closer as Jacklin's men grow in stature

From Mitchell Plains, Palm Beach, Florida</

Legal Appointments

LINKLATERS & PAINES

Commercial Lawyer

Linklaters & Paines wish to recruit a solicitor to work in their Commercial Department. The successful candidate will be concerned mainly with a wide variety of project work (including oil and gas transactions, engineering and export trade contracts and insurance matters) but will also be expected to handle general corporate work, particularly acquisitions and disposals of companies and businesses.

The person required is likely to have been admitted for about two years and to have relevant experience but recently qualified solicitors of exceptional ability will be considered.

Salary and benefits, which will take into account age and experience, will be attractive.

Apply with full c.v. and quoting reference 21.

Taxation Specialist

Linklaters & Paines wish to recruit a lawyer or suitably qualified person to join their specialist Tax Department, which undertakes a wide variety of taxation work for major corporations, institutions and individuals in the UK and overseas. Some experience in such matters would be an advantage but is not essential. Candidates, who may be recently qualified, must have a good academic record, show an aptitude for this field of work and have the capacity to learn quickly.

Salary and benefits, which will take into account age and experience, will be attractive.

Apply with full c.v. and quoting reference 41 to:

John Hamilton, Personnel Manager, Linklaters & Paines, Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA.

LINKLATERS & PAINES

SOLICITOR OR SENIOR LEGAL EXECUTIVE

We seek a suitably qualified solicitor or senior legal executive to handle a large volume of good-quality residential and landed estates conveyancing.

Excellent salary and working conditions.

Please write with full cv to Mr G. S. H. Smeed, Macfarlanes, 10 Norwich St, London EC4A 1BC.

MACFARLANES

West Midlands County Council

COUNTY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

Post Ref: P555 Up to £15,357
PROSECUTING SOLICITOR (2 posts) Up to £13,725
Post Ref: P5160 Up to £12,738
SENIOR ASSISTANT PROSECUTING SOLICITOR (2 posts) Post Ref: P5123
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING SOLICITOR (1 post) Up to £11,052
Post Ref: P5203
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING SOLICITOR (4 posts)

Due to career advancement opportunities are invited for the above range of posts from experienced Solicitors and Barristers with appropriate experience in criminal law practice and procedure.

The office, with an establishment of 73 solicitors and 81 support staff provides a comprehensive advisory and advocacy service to the thirteen divisions of the West Midlands Police and covers twelve Petty Sessions Divisions, two of which are in the cities of Birmingham and Coventry from six offices under the operational independent control of four Area Solicitors. The office is modern in outlook and enjoys excellent working relationships. There is a sound internal training programme for solicitors at all levels. Internal promotion is encouraged. For further information please telephone the Chief Prosecuting Solicitor Mr Ian S. Mason, on 021-300 7001.

Car and subsistence allowances payable where applicable. Assistance may be given towards relocation and helping in approved cases. For an application form, write or telephone, quoting post reference number to: County Personnel Officer, West Midlands County Council, County Hall, 1 Lancaster Circus, Quennsway, Birmingham B4 7DL. Telephone No 021-300 7002. A 24-hour telephone answering service is in operation. Closing date 2nd November, 1983. The County Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Licensing Manager communications technology

London-based Up to £20,074

The Intellectual Property Unit of British Telecom is looking for a Licensing Manager with the drive, technical knowledge and negotiating flair to exploit to British Telecom's benefit the extensive opportunities for licensing in the rapidly expanding field of communications technology.

To be considered, you must have an appropriate technical qualification or equivalent relevant experience, good promotional skills, a track record of sound commercial judgement, and knowledge of the law relevant to licensing.

You will also need to be outgoing and highly self-motivated - much of the

time you will work on your own, creating licensing opportunities and often enjoying sole responsibility for the subsequent negotiations. The work will involve you in some travel.

Starting salary will be within the range £15,583-£20,074, including Inner London Weighting, according to experience and qualifications.

For an application form (to be returned by 26th October 1983), and further information, please ring Mrs J. Wisniewski on 01-380 2778. Or write to her at British Telecommunications Room 20/07 Euston Tower, 286 Euston Road, LONDON NW1 3DG.

British TELECOM

Corporate Secretary/ Legal Adviser

From £16K + Car

Gloucester

The English & American Insurance Group is engaged in insurance and re-insurance business in the City of London and internationally. The Group underwrites for its own account and acts as underwriting agent and corporate manager for UK subsidiaries of major overseas insurance companies.

As a result of developing business and a recent relocation of Corporate Headquarters to Gloucester, a vacancy exists for a Corporate Secretary/Company Legal Adviser to assume the position of Company Secretary of the Group's client insurance companies and to develop a new role as Legal Adviser. The post involves a wide and varied range of secretarial and legal responsibilities and demands working

relationships with senior management and international clients.

Applicants must be qualified solicitors or barristers and should demonstrate first class company secretarial experience or aptitude.

The position offers a salary from £16K depending on experience plus a company car and a comprehensive benefits package.

Please apply in writing giving details of education, qualifications and previous experience to: The Group Secretary, English & American Insurance Company Limited, Tower House, 38 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4HR.

English & American Insurance Group

Legal Adviser

Life assurance London £12,000-£15,000

This City-based appointment forms part of the development of an established Scottish insurance group. Specialising in life assurance, it is a small team handling corporate planning and providing a technical service to group companies and professional intermediaries. This team now requires an enterprising young solicitor or barrister who wishes to develop a commercial career in an industry where initiative and flair are valued.

extremely high rewards. Probably in their late 20s, candidates should already have a knowledge of Trust Law, particularly as related to CTT Planning, and other forms of capital and income taxation. Conditions of employment are excellent and include a non-contributory pension and beneficial mortgage arrangements.

PA

PA Personnel Services

Hyde Park House, 6th Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.

Tel: 01-235 6960 Telex: 27874

TEXACO

LAWYER

Texaco, the major international oil company requires a Lawyer in the UK Legal Department based in Knightsbridge.

Candidates should have at least 3-5 years post qualification experience of commercial law, preferably in industry, which should include commercial conveyancing together with sound experience of litigation including conducting Industrial Tribunal cases.

Applicants will ideally be in their early 30's. A competitive salary will be offered together with the usual company benefits.

Please write giving full career details to the Legal Adviser, Texaco Limited, 1 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7QJ.

PAYNE HICKS & BEACH

require

ASSISTANT SOLICITORS

For a wide range of Commercial and General Litigation. The successful applicants will be of outgoing personality, experienced in High Court procedure. Recently qualified applicants will be considered.

Application with full curriculum vitae to:

D. J. Leverton
10 New Square, Lincoln's Inn,
London W.C.2

BRIAN THOMPSON & PARTNERS

CARDIFF

Require a young, enthusiastic Solicitor to handle a large volume of plaintiff personal injury litigation. Some experience of this type of work essential.

Apply with full C.V. to Mr A. Herbert,

Brian Thompson & Partners
1 Fitzalan Place, Newport Road, Cardiff

East Anglia/Company Commercial

GROSS & Co. a sub-partner firm in the thriving market town and expanding commercial centre of Bury St Edmunds have a vacancy for an Assistant Solicitor with 2-3 years' admitted experience of company and commercial work to specialise in that field but also to undertake other work. Salary negotiable and partnership prospects for the right applicant.

Apply in writing with full C.V. to 84 Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP23 1PR

Tax Lawyer

COWARD CHANCE wishes to recruit a tax lawyer to work in its expanding tax department.

Ideally candidates will be solicitors or barristers with at least two years experience in this field since qualification.

The work is varied and challenging and involves dealing with all aspects of taxation but with an emphasis on corporate taxation.

Please write with full curriculum vitae to: M.C.C. Mogridge, Coward Chance, Royce House, Aldermanbury Square, London EC2V 7LD.

COWARD CHANCE

BURY MAGISTRATES' COURT

Trainee/Court Clerk

£3,066 - £10,296

Applications are invited for the above post, which will be available from 1st December, 1983, from solicitors or barristers seeking a career in the Magistrates' Service. The post will offer opportunities to gain experience in all aspects of office administration and the taking of courts.

Applications marked 'Vacancy - Confidential' must contain details of education and qualifications and the names of two referees. CLOSING DATE - 27th October, 1983. IAN C. WEISS, Recruiter at Law, Clerk to the Justices, The Magistrates' Court, Tenterden Street, BURY B10 0BQ

CAYMAN ISLANDS

A leading firm of Attorneys in the Cayman Islands seeks a Barrister or Solicitor to operate its litigation department.

The applicant should have some years post-qualification experience in private practice. He will be expected to handle a wide range of cases but he should be capable of conducting major commercial litigation, including corporate, banking, trust and admiralty matters. He may also be required to handle non-litigious matters.

The initial salary, depending on experience, will be in the region of £20,000.00 per annum. The Cayman Islands have no personal taxes. Applications should be in writing addressed to Antony Duckworth, Maples and Calder, P.O. Box 389, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies. Interviews will be held in London.

EXPERIENCED CONVEYANCER

Admitted or Unadmitted with experience of company conveyancing and property related matters. Apply in writing with full C.V. to:

J. Elliott Brooks
Southall & Co.
84 Brook Street
Grosvener Square
London W1

ENERGETIC AND COMPETENT SOLICITOR

Required for non-contentious department of progressive medium sized firm. Top salary and excellent prospects. Apply with cv to:

David Gabbitts
Wolferstons
Deptford Chambers
62/64 North Hill
Plymouth, Devon

SOLICITOR FINCHLEY CENTRAL

We wish to appoint a young personable and energetic solicitor to undertake commercial, residential and associated work. The ideal applicant will have three to four years' post-admission experience. Early partnership prospects are available.

Please contact Mr Ronald Nathan at RONALD NATHAN & CO, 84 Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W1 01-345 1761

LONDON, SW11

Solicitor aged 25-35 required by expanding firm to undertake private and conveyancing with a view to early partnership.

Call Mr Gansky 228 0017

N.E. LONDON

Solicitors require Solicitor to manage branch office. Must have own clientele.

Telephone day 01-885 8578/9 and Evenings 01-885 4185

ASA LAW

The Specialist Agency for Solicitors Locum and Permanent Appointments.

1. For any PERMANENT requirements in any area call Chloé Thomas.
2. For any LOCUM requirements - overnight - sickness - standby - holidays - all areas. Call Catherine Foster.

01-623 5725

ALLROUNDER

For small established Conveyancing firm. Excellent prospects.

Contact: Wessons Consultants 2 Peter Street, 2nd Floor, Southwark, London, SE1 1PU. Tel: 083228185

LOCUMS

Especially young assistant solicitors for Divorce, District and General.

Contact: Wessons Consultants 2 Peter Street, 2nd Floor, Southwark, London, SE1 1PU. Tel: 083228185

Conveyancing

We are seeking to recruit an experienced conveyancer specialising in Estate work.

The successful applicant must have a sound knowledge of conveyancing and a practical approach to clients' problems. There will be an emphasis on unregistered title, trusts for sale and settled land and the applicant must be capable of dealing with the academic complexities so often involved in this demanding area of law. He or she will have a large workload in a busy department and must be capable of working with a minimum of supervision.

This is a challenging position for which we are offering a competitive salary and attractive fringe benefits.

Please write in strictest confidence with full curriculum vitae to our Staff Partner, John Skelton, at:

WITHERS 20 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AL

TRUST LEGAL OFFICER IN BERMUDA

The Bank of Bermuda Limited is seeking a Solicitor to join its Trust Division in Bermuda. The successful applicant will have a minimum two years' post qualification experience in all aspects of trust, private client work and international tax planning. The applicant will also have a good knowledge of Company Law.

A mature approach with an outgoing personality is sought as the successful applicant will be expected to deal with the Bank's clients from all parts of the world.

An attractive salary is being offered commensurate with experience and the Bank will also provide its usual staff benefits. This is a unique opportunity to take up a challenging post in an extremely pleasant environment.

Interested persons should apply in the first instance to the following address, enclosing a c.v. which will be treated with strictest confidence: Mr. V. L. Stevens, Manager, The Bank of Bermuda Limited, Representative Office, Minister House, 12 Arthur Street, London EC4R 9AB.

Interviews will take place in London during November.

TUCK AND MANN REQUIRE A CONVEYANCING SOLICITOR

WE ARE: A substantial and expanding firm with offices in London, Dorking, Epsom and Leatherhead.

WE SEEK: A competent young Conveyancer to assist one of our Partners with a high volume of residential and commercial work. The appointment would suit someone qualified up to 2 years but ability rather than experience is sought and newly qualified applicants will be considered.

WE OFFER: Competitive salary, good working conditions and prospects to right person.

APPLY: Tuck & Mann, Old Gun Court, North Street, Dorking Surrey-Dorking (0306) 881256-Ref JG.

Potential Litigation Partner

Grays Inn firm seeks Litigation Solicitor to assist in busy practice. The ideal applicant will have 3 to 4 years' experience and be able to handle a wide variety of work. Attractive salary commensurate with experience. Definite partnership prospects.

Please reply to Box 1451R The Times

Legal Appointments also on page 25

on page 23

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 **Cortex** AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports information. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Sally Scott. News from Debbie Fitt at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit between 6.45 and 7.00; review of the morning papers at 7.30 and 8.30; Ask Alison between 6.45 and 7.00 and again between 8.30 and 9.00; horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45.

9.00 **The New Adventures of Flash Gordon**. The super hero in an animated adventure. The Monsters of Mongo 8.20. The Spell of the Orb 8.40. A guide to the world of the orb, narrated by Tom Selton 10.10. **Cartoons** with Bob and Sleepy Time Squirrel 10.30. Play School, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r) 10.55. **Closedown**.

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitford and Judy Lines. The weather, 12.30. **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles 1.40. **Pebble Mill** at One with the week's **Clips** 1.45. **Gran** (r) 1.50. **Stop Go!** (r).

2.00 **Film: Goodbye Charlie** (1984) starring Debbie Reynolds. Tony Curtis and Walter Matthau. A comedy about a young woman who claims she is the reincarnation of a murdered woman. Directed by Vincente Minnelli. 3.53 **Regional News** (not London).

3.55 **Play School**. For the under fives, presented by Chris Tranchesi 4.20. **SuperTed** and the Elephant's Graveyard 4.45. **Cartoons**. Martin Jones reads part two of C. Day Lewis's *The Oldbury Incident* 4.46. **Reinhardt**. The first of a new series of comedies featuring a group of friendly characters. 5.10 **Think Again**. In this last of the present series Johnny Ball examines the facts behind heads.

5.40 **News with Moira Stuart** 5.50. **South East** at Six with South Today.

6.25 **Cartoons** starring Tom and Jerry.

6.40 **Angela**. The arrival of a new nurse at the hospital has a surprising effect on some of her colleagues.

7.05 **Henry**. Three guests on the programme tonight - Jean Alexander, who plays Hilda Ogden in *Coronation Street*; singer John Denver; and dancer Wayne Sleep.

7.40 **Taxi**. The lecherous Louis receives a letter which he offers to accompany the lovely Elaine on her European trip. Another funny episode featuring the drivers of the Sunshine Cab Company of New York.

8.05 **Berganza**. The Jersey detective investigates a series of robberies on the island, robberies that are causing insurance companies concern.

9.00 **News with John Humphries**.

9.25 **The Dark Side of the Sun**. The final part and Anne learns the truth about her husband's death.

10.18 **Film: Carry On Loving** (1970) starring Sidney James, Kenneth Williams and Hattie Jacques. All the old 'Carry On' gang in their 20th film, this time about the shenanigans at the wedding of Miss Marriage Agency. Directed by Gerald Thomas.

11.46 **News headlines and weather**.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** with Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. A review of the morning papers at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.45; the horrors of a Manchester housing estate at 6.50 and 8.45; John Stapleton with a guest in the Spotlight at 7.05; a Pope's cartoon at 7.25; guest Jonathan King from 7.30; Timmy Mallett's pop news at 7.55; Inside Irma Kutz's house at 8.05; Gyles Brandstetter's video report at 8.35; baby talk at 9.00.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For Schools**: Love, sex and contraception. 10.04 **Urban** 10.21 **Urban** 10.38 **Urban** 10.55 **Urban** 11.12 **Urban** 11.29 **Urban** 11.46 **Urban** 12.03 **Urban** 12.20 **Urban** 12.37 **Urban** 12.54 **Urban** 13.11 **Urban** 13.28 **Urban** 13.45 **Urban** 14.02 **Urban** 14.19 **Urban** 14.36 **Urban** 14.53 **Urban** 15.10 **Urban** 15.27 **Urban** 15.44 **Urban** 16.01 **Urban** 16.18 **Urban** 16.35 **Urban** 16.52 **Urban** 17.09 **Urban** 17.26 **Urban** 17.43 **Urban** 18.00 **Urban** 18.17 **Urban** 18.34 **Urban** 18.51 **Urban** 19.08 **Urban** 19.25 **Urban** 19.42 **Urban** 19.59 **Urban** 20.16 **Urban** 20.33 **Urban** 20.50 **Urban** 21.07 **Urban** 21.24 **Urban** 21.41 **Urban** 21.58 **Urban** 22.15 **Urban** 22.32 **Urban** 22.49 **Urban** 23.06 **Urban** 23.23 **Urban** 23.40 **Urban** 23.57 **Urban** 24.14 **Urban** 24.31 **Urban** 24.48 **Urban** 25.05 **Urban** 25.22 **Urban** 25.39 **Urban** 25.56 **Urban** 26.13 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